FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi forces twice attacked the Iranian city of Dezful on 11 February with a total of five surface-to-surface missiles, Tehran radio announced. The Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, in its 11 February communique broadcast by Tehran radio, said that 8 civilians were killed in the attacks and about 70 others wounded. An Iraqi military spokesman, in comments cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, said that the attacks against "selected targets" in Dezful were in accordance with earlier warnings to Iran to cease its continued strikes against Iraqi towns.

Responding to the attack on Dezful, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i gave the order for Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin to be attacked, Tehran radio reported on 11 February. A "final warning" to residents of these areas to leave was also broadcast by Tehran's Arabic service. A statement from the Iranian War Propaganda Headquarters, carried by Tehran radio on 12 February, announced the beginning of Iran's "retaliatory attack" against the three designated cities. A spokesman for the Armed Forces General Command, in a statement cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses, reported the new Iranian attack and promised that, unless this "ally of Zionism" desists from its "frivolous policy," Iraq will "exhaust it and run it into the ground."

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command Communique for 12 February, broadcast by Baghdad radio, reported "successful and effective" strikes against Bandar-e Khomeyni and the petrochemical complex there. In response to the shelling of Iraqi cities, Iraq intensified its bombardment of the southern Iranian port cities, with artillery and air strikes hitting targets in Abadan and Gilan-e Gharb, the communique added. Fifteen residents of Abadan were killed in the attack and more than 90 others wounded, while 30 residents were wounded in Gilan-e Gharb, Tehran radio reported.

In another development, Iranian forces penetrated 15 km inside Iraqi territory and captured important heights in the Darband region south of Marivan, a communique of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps broadcast by Tehran radio on 11 February announced. Iraqi and foreign residents of this region were requested to leave so as not to be hurt in the event of shelling, the communique added.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in comments reported by Tehran radio, said that the Darband hydroelectric dam is now within artillery range. An Iraqi military commander, however, in a statement to INA denied the existence of any Iranian movements in this area and ridiculed Iranian claims of an advance inside Iraqi territory as nothing but "nonsensical" statements reflecting the collapse of enemy morale.

Lebanon

Military/Security Situation — Israeli aircraft raided "terrorist" bases and artillery pieces in the Bhamdun area on 10 February, IDF Radio announced. The raid was not connected with current events in Beirut but was in line with Israel's policy of not allowing the "terrorists" to reorganize in places they abandoned during the 1982 Israeli operation, according to security sources cited by the radio. Voice of Lebanon radio confirmed that Israeli planes raided Palestinian targets, but a Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio said the air raid caused civilian casulties. The following day, in a statement broadcast by Damascus television, a Syrian military spokesman claimed that Syrian air defenses in the Lebanese mountains "confronted" U.S. F-14 aircraft overflying the area, forcing them out to sea.

As for the situation in the capital, Beirut radio said the city was relatively calm over the weekend despite continued clashes along the contact lines between the eastern and western sectors. The Museum road linking the two halves of Beirut was reopened 12 February after French troops deployed on both sides of the crossing point, Paris radio noted. Contacts are also under way to allow the port to resume operations so that supplies can reach all areas, according to official sources cited by Beirut radio.

The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio ascribed the calm in West Beirut to the Amal Movement's strict security measures, reporting that Amal executed one of its own members for contravening instructions. The radio accused the Lebanese Army of kidnapping Iranian diplomats in the city on 10 February, while Voice of Lebanon reported that gunmen kidnapped a U.S. professor working at the American University of Beirut. In another development, Voice of the Mountain asserted that Phalangist forces have left the eastern city of Zahlah in response to the demands of the National Salvation Front (NSF) and Amal.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil, in remarks reported by Beirut radio on 13 February, announced that he is "studying" the agreement with Israel and wants to form a government which will represent all of the conflicting sides. At the forthcoming National Dialogue Conference, the president will propose a reform program calling for the creation of a senate and for proportional parliamentary representation for Christians and Muslims, AFP disclosed in a related report. Al-Jumayyil had earlier conferred with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, who came to Beirut with another draft plan to resolve the crisis, Beirut radio noted. However, Voice of the Mountain viewed Al-Jumayyil's proposals as a "desperate attempt" to retain the presidency in spite of the "massacres" he perpetrated. Although a 10 February NSF statement broadcast by Damascus television did not mention Al-Jumayyil, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt reaffirmed his demand for Al-Jumayyil's resignation in a Radio Monte Carlo interview the same day.

French President Francois Mitterrand announced in an interview reported by AFP that French troops will remain in Beirut, though he said the Multinational Force should be replaced by UN troops to avoid further massacres. Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas told an Austrian magazine that Syria agrees to the stationing of UN forces in Lebanon provided the IDF withdraws from Lebanon and Lebanon abrogates its agreement with Israel, according to Radio Monte Carlo. In remarks reported by Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned Al-Jumayyil that if Lebanon abrogates the agreement with Israel, this will free Israel of its undertakings in the agreement, including its commitment to maintain Lebanon's full sovereignty. The Israeli Cabinet subsequently stressed that Syrian efforts to secure the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement prove its importance, Jerusalem television noted.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left San'a' on 10 February after talks with the YAR president and arrived in Tunis on 11 February, San'a' and Tunis radios reported. On 12 February 'Arafat left Tunis for a short visit to Algiers before going to Moscow to attend the funeral of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, AFP stated citing WAFA.

Meanwhile, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf received a message from the Soviet leadership inviting Fatah Central Committee members to visit Moscow for consultations, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio announced. PLO Executive Committee member Faruq Qaddumi will visit Cairo "within the coming days," MENA announced citing the 11 February issue of *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Mubarak's Activities — Egypt and Libya have agreed to stop concentrating military forces along their common border, KUNA reported on 12 February citing an "Arab diplomatic source" in Rabat. The agreement was reached between President Husni Mubarak and a Libyan envoy during talks arranged by the Moroccan Government, the source added. According to the source, the Libyan envoy told Mubarak that his country does "not object" to Egypt's return to the Arab fold provided the return takes place on a "clear basis."

Meanwhile, Mubarak and French President Francois Mitterrand held talks in Paris on 11 February on the Lebanese crisis, the Palestinian question, and bilateral relations, MENA reported. Mubarak was also received by Jordan's King Husayn in Washington on 12 February and was the king's dinner guest the same evening, Amman radio reported.

Syrian-Libyan Meeting — Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud held talks in Damascus on 12 February which centered on the current Arab situation, Damascus television said.

PDRY Leader in Syria — Talks began in Damascus on 12 February between the visiting chairman of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus television reported.

Egypt

Egyptian authorities have refused to allow U.S. nuclear vessels to pass through the Suez Canal, SUNA reported from Cairo on 11 February.

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Syrian, Lebanese Heads; U.S., USSR Envoys May Meet

GF111345 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 11 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Informed diplomatic sources have said that a tripartite meeting is expected to be held in Damascus next week between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, and the leaders of the National Salvation Front. In an exclusive statement to *AL-HADAF*, the sources said that the idea of the meeting was the result of the recent meetings among the Lebanese politicians, and that the three parties have arrived at a definite conception regarding what will happen during this meeting.

The sources concluded their statement to *AL-HADAF* by saying that it is not unlikely that the meeting will also include the Soviet first deputy chairman, who will be in the Syrian capital at the time of the meeting, and that it is also likely that U.S. President's Envoy Donald Rumsfield will also take part in the meeting. The sources said that once these various parties meet around the Damascus table, their meeting will acquire the character of a small international roundtable that will lead Lebanon to a political atmosphere for resolving its crisis.

'Arafat Sends Condolences on Andropov Death

LD122226 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The brother leader Abu Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a telegram of condolences to the Politburo of the CPSU on the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presiidum of the Supreme Soviet. Here is the text of this telegram:

Comrades in the Politburo of the CPSU: We have received with utmost regret the news of the demise of Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who was a loyal and principled friend of the Palestinian people and its just cause. While addressing my condolences to you comrades on behalf of our Palestinian people and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the PLO, and in my own name, I address my condolences to the peoples of the Soviet Union, stressing our determination to continue the consolidation of the comradely relations between our people and the leader of its liberation struggle, the PLO, and the Soviet Union which has always stood in a principled and firm stand on the side of our struggle.

The peoples in struggle in the world and the international working class have lost a firm struggler and a unique defender of the causes of peace and justice in the world. We are convinced that Comrade Andropov has left a great heritage of struggle, and the CPSU will carry on its internationalist march towards the same objectives and on the same principles that have ruled its struggle along its glorious history. In this context, Brother (Abu al-'Izz), offered his condolences to the Soviet embassy last night on the demise of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and secretary general of the CPSU, who died a few days ago. Brother (Abu al-'Izz) was accompanied by a number of the cadres of the PLO office in Algiers.

AFP: 'Arafat To Attend Andropov Funeral

NC121453 Paris AFP in English 1411 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, Feb 12 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat left here today for a short visit to Algiers before leaving for Moscow to attend Tuesdays' funeral of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, Palestinian press agency WAFA reported. Mr 'Arafat may preside over the opening in Algiers of the Ninth Congress of Palestinian Students to be held from February 12-17, WAFA added.

Further Details

LD111703 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat has returned to Tunis after a tour that took him to Baghdad, Kuwait, and San'a'. Informed Palestinian sources explained that 'Arafat will preside over a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee in Tunis soon. It is also expected that the Palestinian leader will leave for Moscow to attend Soviet President Yuriy Andropov's funeral.

Moscow Invites Fatah Delegation for Talks

LD112130 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, has received a message from the Soviet leadership inviting Fatah Central Committee members to visit Moscow for consultations with the Soviet leadership. The message also outlines the stance of the Soviet Union toward Palestinian developments and political moves. The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* says that it has learned that a delegation headed by Abu Iyad will visit Moscow this month.

Soviet Message Termed 'Urgent'

LD101748 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Salah, Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has received an urgent message from the Soviet leadership inviting members of the Fatah Central Committee to visit Moscow for consultaions with the Soviet leadership. Reporting this, Kuwaiti *AL-QABAS* said that it has learned that a delegation led by Abu Iyad will visit Moscow this month.

Palestinian Officials Leave for Tunis Meetings

JN120935 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Feb pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* — Mahmud 'Abass, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member and Fatah Central Committee member, stopped over at the Queen 'Alya' International Airport in Amman yesterday en route to Tunis from Kuwait to attend the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee. 'Abass met with Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in the transit lounge. Both men boarded the plane leaving Amman for Tunis. 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, PLO Executive Committee member also left for Tunis to participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee which are expected to be held after the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee.

PFLP Source Cited on PNC Meetings, Differences

JN120852 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Feb 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* — A PFLP responsible source has said that consultations and contacts are taking place to convene the PNC next March. The source said that the various Palestinian factions are convinced of the need to resort to the Palestinian legitimate institutions, and that their ideas must be presented within these institutions, after attempts to form a substitute organization to the PLO had failed. The source added that the PFLP still adheres to its stand on the need to reach Palestinian agreement on the future Palestinian political line before the convening the PNC. This indicates that there are differences in the political viewpoints and line between a large sector of the Palestinian resistance and the policy of Yasir 'Arafat, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in particular, and the Fatah organziation, the biggest Palestinian organizations, in general.

The Palestinian official hinted that the PFLP, which strongly opposes Abu 'Ammar's policy, will not hesitate to attend the meetings of the Palestinian legitimate institutions, because it believes that the majority oppose Abu 'Ammar's political line, although Abu 'Ammar may gain a majority to remain the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution, and the chairman of the PLO.

On whether or not the Fatah dissidents will attend the PNC meetings, the Palestinian official, who is a PNC member, said that any member of the PNC has the right to attend. The senior Palestinian official expressed the belief that the Fatah General Congress will convene before the PNC. He hinted that it would not be easy to hold the Fatah General Congress at this time because of differences in viewpoints among the Fatah cadres about the political line that Abu 'Ammar and some Fatah leaders follow.

Baghdad PLO Radio Criticizes Junblatt Remarks

JN101800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1625 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the dimensions of the conspiracy game are becoming clearer day by day. This conspiracy game has been underway since the expulsion of the PLO from Beirut in the summer of 1982 and from Tripoli at the end of last year. Some of the warring factions in Lebanon are contributting, wittingly or unwittingly, to this conspiracy game. The serious developments taking place these days in the Lebanese arena, developments which are marked by rapid steps toward the partition of Lebanon, point to the fact that many of the warring sides are wittingly or unwittingly contributing to that ugly plan. During his meeting on Tuesday, 7 February 1984, with the U.S. ambassador in Damascus, Walid Junblatt declared in what Syrian media constantly call the heart of Arabdom that he had assured the U.S. ambassador that he is fully determined to safeguard what he termed Israel's northern border.

We do not know why Junblatt had to say such things and to show such concern for what he termed Israel's northern border. But if we are to analyze his words, we can say that Junblatt will only be able to safeguard the northern border of the enemy's entity through a certain concept; namely, the concept of the buffer entity. We do not want to go any further in this analysis, however every Arab citizen, especially the Palestinian and Lebanese citizen, has the right to ask a number of basic questions. First, why did Junblatt make his declaration when the heroes of the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance are waging a courageous struggle against Zionist occupation to throw it out of the occupied Lebanese territory without conditions and without giving guarantees to any side to achieve that objective? And, will Junblatt's statement affect the operations being carried out by the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance? Second, guaranteeing the northern border of the enemy's entity was the strategic slogan of what the enemy termed the peace for Galilee operation when it invaded Lebanon last summer. Although we know that this was not the enemy's strategic objective for invading Lebanon, it still was one of the objectives of the invasion. Therefore, why did Junblatt have to court the enemy in one of its vital objectives? We fear that those who advocate the theory of safeguarding the northern border of the Zionist enemy might, wittingly or unwittingly, get involved in discussions on this subject with the enemy government. Once again, we would like to point out that the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance forces are engaged in a brave fight against the Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon in order to end the occupation and disprove all the enemy's hostile theories. The third question is: Why did Junblatt make these statements and pledges amid information about the existence of a Zionist plan to establish sectarian cantons in Lebanon, including the Druze canton, which would extend from Al-Qar'awn to Ash-Shuf? This subject was discussed recently in the Zionist Knesset.

It remains to be said: If there is anyone who believes and says that Junblatt's statements and pledges were only tactical and that they will not oblige Junblatt in the end to adopt a certain policy to carry out his pledges, we say: The semantics of politics confirm that tactical statements must not touch on the basic objectives and principles of struggle. Foremost of these objectives and principles in the Lebanese arena these days is Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty over all of its territories. This calls for struggle against both partition and Zionist occupation without giving any kind of pledges. Otherwise, what is the justification for demanding the cancellation of the 17 May agreement, which the Lebanese authority had signed with the Zionist enemy? Isn't the 17 May agreement some kind of a pledge which Amin al-Jumayyil's authority and the Phalangist Party gave to the Zionist enemy to safeguard the security of the northern border of the enemy's entity? All we want to say in the end is that there is still time for Junblatt to carefully review his position before it is too late.

Palestinian Popular Struggle Front on U.S. Shelling

JN101848 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front has denounced the U.S. aggression against the Lebanese nationalist areas and considered the U.S. warships' shelling of the Lebanese cities, villages, and the positions of the nationalist Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance a prelude for a larger aggression, which the U.S. Administration is preparing in coordination with the Zionist entity and the factional Phalangist army. In a statement made today, the Front's official spokesman said that as a result of the Lebanese nationalists' victory in Beirut, these hostile forces consider their plan in Lebanon and the region has been subjected to a hard blow. This has placed the United States and its allies in the region in a state of confusion and fumbling and forced them to make the decision of withdrawing the multinational forces from Beirut, shelling the Lebanese nationalists' positions, demolishing the peaceful villages, waging a war of extermination on peaceful citizens, and preparing for a larger aggression against Syria's steadfast stand in confronting the greatest imperialist onslaught in the region. This took place following Syria's absolute rejection of the U.S. plan and its firm stand in support of the Lebanese people and their nationalist and progressive forces and following Syria's shouldering of its pan-Arab responsibility in confronting the hostile plan in the region. The Front's spokesman said that the development of events in Lebanon requires all Arab nationalists to stand on the side of the nationalist Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance.

PFLP Denounces U.S. Aggression Against Lebanon

JN110856 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The PFLP has stated that the ugly crimes and barbaric aggressions that the U.S. Administration is carrying out in Lebanon are unsuccessful attempts to scare Syria and have it refrain from confronting the U.S. schemes and supporting the nationalist forces. In a press statement yesterday, the PFLP added that the continued aggressions by the U.S. Administration against the Lebanese masses are desperate attempts to impose the fascist regime on these masses and to complete what this administration and its advance base, Israel, started in June 1982. The PFLP announced that in view of this serious escalation by the U.S. Administration, its fleets, and the fleets of its NATO allies, the Palestinian revolution forces consider the battle of confrontation of the imperialists as the battle of all the Arab masses and of their forces of liberation. The PFLP praised the National Salvation Front and Amal Movement in their heroic confrontation of the Phalangist hegemony.

Palestinian Liberation Front Comments on Lebanon

JN101818 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front, has affirmed that what is currently taking place in the Lebanese territories is an aggression against the Arab nation, its masses, will, and future. In a statement he made today, Ya'qub called for foiling the joint criminal U.S.- Israeli-Phalangist design and striking at the Camp David group and those panting after U.S. solutions. He added: We add our voice and rifles to those of all comrades-in-arms in order to foil the 17 May agreement, prevent Lebanon's partition, and expell the Zionist invaders and pursue them until all the Arab land is liberated.

Qaddummi To Visit Cairo 'Coming Days'

JN110722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Today's issue of the weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* says that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, will visit Cairo within the coming days. It adds that during this visit, Qaddumi will meet with senior Egyptian officials, members of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committees at the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council, and leaders of the political parties.

Katyusha Attack on Galilee Settlement Reported

JN101636 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] A group of Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance fighters has fired Katyushas from southern Lebanon in the direction of Zionist military positions in the Zionist town of Metulla in the Palestinian Galilee panhandle inside the occupied homeland. This attack resulted in direct hits on the Zionist positions, killing or wounding many Zionist occupation soldiers.

Admitting the operation, a Zionist military spokesman claimed as usual that there were no casualties among his forces. He added that the resistance fighters had equipped the Katyushas with timers, directed them toward the targets, and departed. He further said that the Zionist forces mopped up the area and found nothing but the Katyusha launchers.

Another resistance group detonated explosive charges under an invading forces' armored vehicle, 2 km south of the Az-Zahrani River in southern Lebanon. The explosion destroyed the vehicle, killing or wounding all those inside it. A spokesman for the invading forces also admitted this operation. He said that none of his soldiers was harmed. However, he added that his forces immediately cordoned off the area and detained many citizens for interrogation.

Al-Wazir on New PLO Leadership, Jordan

GF121450 Doha QNA in Arabic 0955 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Amman, 12 Feb (QNA) — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, has said that a new PLO leadership will be formed after the PNC meetings which are scheduled to be held in March. In an interview with the monthly magazine *AL-KARAMAH*, which is published by the Palestine Liberation Army command in Jordan, Al-Wazir said that the new PLO leadership will not include those who stood against the Palestinian revolution and attacked Palestinian refugee camps in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon. Al-Wazir said that the representation of Palestinian groupings within the PNC will be expanded, and those who were linked with the organizations that fought their people will be weeded out.

Abu Jihad asserted that 'Arafat's visit to Egypt does not mean that the PLO is steering toward the Camp David policy. He said the visit is a penetration of the barrier Israel placed around Egypt after the Camp David accords. The visit aimed to bring Egypt back to the Arab ranks. He stressed the importance of continuing the efforts to draw Egypt back to the Arab ranks because Egypt has a great and undeniable influence with regard to the Palestinian question.

Abu Jihad said that the Palestinian revolution supports the view of the Egyptian national movement on the need to strengthen its support for the Palestinian struggle. He said that the PLO's political action does not mean a political settlement but is a move to hold the cards in our hands so that our action will be effective and the balance of forces will be in our favor. This is important and desirable in the coming stage, he said.

Khalil al-Wazir said: The brothers in Jordan interpret political action to mean that the Palestinian question must not remain frozen and in abeyance but that Palestinian Arab rights must remain a constant fact in the eyes of the world. He added that therefore political action must continue. We are continuing ourjoint moves with Jordan. We are also drawing up future policies for our action with the Arab world. We gain new Arab cards and then move on to gain European support. He emphasized thatArab action is necessary as a means to exert pressure on the European countries to support our cause.

Khalil al-Wazir said: Many steps will be made in the coming days to strengthen relations with Jordan. We have sensed on the part of the Jordanian monarch his anxiousness that the Palestinian struggle must continue and the Palestinian will for fighting must always be free of any tutelage. In the coming stage we will bear the responsibility for strengthening this historic and special relationship that has been consolidated through joint sacrifices.

Asked about the next stage, Khalil al-Wazir said: Many tasks lie before us, the first of which is to reconstruct the Palestinian house as soon as possible, rebuild our forces, reorganize, and make use of the time in training and preparations so that our political action will proceed from a basis of struggle and sacrifices.

Arab League, Lebanese Official Exchange Messages

JN102156 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, 10 Feb (INA) — It was learned here this evening that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi today sent a cable to Kamil al-As'ad, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, expressing solidarity with Lebanon in the crisis through which it is passing. Well-informed sources told the INA correspondent that the Arab League secretary general handed the cable to the Lebanese ambassador in Tunis when he received him this morning and that the cable is in reply to one Klibi received from the Lebanese Foreign Ministry containing a call by Kamil al-As'ad for convening an urgent session of the Arab League Council. The sources explained that Al-As'ad's call is not considered as an official call. Therefore, the Arab League Secretariat did not adopt it as an official memorandum, and the Arab League secretary general simply replied to it in the manner mentioned.

KUWAIT

Leaders Send Condolences on Andropov Death

Amir Extends Sympathy

LD111055 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] His highness the amir of Kuwait has sent a cable of condolences and sympathy to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the death of the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov.

Prime Minister Sends Condolences

LD111734 Kuwait KUNA in English 1530 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 11 (KUNA) — Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah sent a cable of condolences Saturday to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the death of Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov.

The crown prince also sent a similar cable to the Soviet chairman of the Council of Ministers, Nikolay Tikhonov.

Foreign Minister Visits Ambassador

LD122145 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Shakyh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and minister of information, this morning visited Pogos Akopov, the Soviet ambassador in Kuwait, to offer condolences in his own name and on behalf of the government on the death of Soviet President Yuriy Andropov.

Bilateral Relations Discussed With Syrian Envoy

LD121418 Kuwait KUNA in English 1227 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 12 (KUNA) — Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry Rashid ar-Rashid Sunday met here with the Syrian ambassador to Kuwait, Dr. ‘Isa Darwish, and discussed fraternal bilateral relations between Kuwait and Syria.

Discussions also dealt with the developments in Lebanon and the crisis it is passing through.

The undersecretary affirmed following the meeting that Kuwait calls for the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from all Lebanese territories and an end to the American bombardment in Lebanon, in order to give a chance to Lebanon to restore its unity and sovereignty and to create a suitable atmosphere for a national reconciliation to bring about security and stability for that country.

Trial of Embassy Bombing Defendants Reported

LD111653 Kuwait KUNA in English 1001 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 11 (KUNA) — The State Security Court trying twenty-five persons on charges of subversive activities, decided Saturday to hold its sittings in camera.

The court convened under stringent security precautions to hear twenty-one defendants. Four of the accused are being tried in abstensia. The court is presided over by Ghazi as-Sammar, and the session was entirely devoted to reading the indictment sheet of the 21 persons involved in the chain of blasts which rocked the country last December 12. The court includes as members Counsellor Ismael Za‘zou and Judge Faysal al-Murshid.

Of the defendants, 19 face death sentences for premeditated murder. Other charges include attempted murder; subversive action against a number of foreign embassies and public installations and utilities with the intention of causing damage; importing and possessing arms, explosives and ammunition without permits; and training for the use and manning of explosives.

After the court started proceedings, the president called on the defendants by name and took note of the four defendants still at large. Three of the defendants requested a defence council while the court has already appointed 10 Kuwaiti lawyers for the rest of them.

The defendants names were read as follows:

1. Badir Ibrahim ‘Abd ar-Rida, 30 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
2. Elias Fu‘ad Sa‘ib, 23 — Lebanese, currently imprisoned at the central prison
3. Ahmad ‘Ali Husayn (Abu Haydar) wanted — still at large
4. Mustafa Ibrahim Ahmad (Abu Zahra) wanted — still at large
5. ‘Abdil Husayn ‘Aziz ‘Abbas, 28 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison

6. Jamal Ja‘afar Muhammad, wanted — still at large
7. ‘Amir ‘Abd az-Zahra Sulayman al-‘Awad, 22 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
8. Husayn Qasim Hassan, 27 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
9. ‘Adil ‘Abd ar-Razzaq Shaykh Hadi, 27 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
10. Nasralla Matuk Saywan, 30 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison

11. Jabbar ‘Abbas Jabbar, 22 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
12. Husayn al-Sayyid Yusif al-Musawi, 28 — Lebanese, currently imprisoned at the central prison
13. ‘Azzam Khalil Ibrahim, 22 — Lebanese, currently imprisoned at the central prison
14. Ibrahim Sabah Frayhaj (Ahmad), 29 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
15. Ya‘arib Faiq Mahdi, 24 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison

16. Hassan Flayj al-Hamad, 26 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
17. Sa'ad Yasin 'Abdallah ad-Dhayabi, 21 — Kuwaiti, currently imprisoned at the central prison
18. Yusef Majid Wahib, 21 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
19. 'Abdil Muhsin Rashash 'Abbas, 20 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
20. Haytham Mahfuz 'Abd ar-Karim, wanted — still at large

21. Nasir Matar Dahsh, 25 — non-Kuwaiti, currently imprisoned at the central prison
22. Ahmad 'Abd ar-Karim Niimah, 29 — Iraqi, currently imprisoned at the central prison
23. Sharif Mutlaq Nasir, 44 — non-Kuwaiti, currently imprisoned at the central prison
24. 'Abd ar-Rida Dawud Madwah, 53 — Kuwaiti, currently imprisoned at the central prison
25. 'Abd as-Samad Jawad 'Abdallah as-Saffar, 32 — Kuwaiti, currently imprisoned at the central prison

On December 12, in various parts of the city, the indictment sheet said: The first nineteen accused, as well as another person who died while causing one of the explosions, are charged with the premeditated murder of Ahmed Samara, Ali el Gamal, Mofid el Hakim, Mohammed Salam and Abdel Najeeb Ahmed al Rifai, and the attempted murder of others whose names are included in the list of witnesses for the prosecution, attached to the indictment sheet.

They also conspired to destroy the buildings of the American and French embassies, as well as the control tower of Kuwait international airport. Other targets included the control center of the Ministry of Electricity and Water, the offices of Rathion Gulf System, the residential quarters of American experts in Al-Bida' and the Shuaybah industrial area. Anyone found in these areas or nearby could have been killed as a result of the blasts.

The accused agreed among themselves on the roles to be undertaken by each and defined the means of implementation. They gathered a large number of gas cylinders and benzine and gasoline-filled containers which they acquired with the sole purpose of carrying out these explosions. With booby-trapped vehicles, the conspirators headed to their targets, and a twenty-sixth accused person perished in one of the operations when he attacked the American Embassy. The other accused drove vehicles loaded with explosives to the other targets.

Formal charges against defendants 1-19 were made under eight separate points:

— premeditated murder and attempted murder
— arson
— causing explosions
— damaging public property and installations
— illegal importation and possesion of unlicensed explosives
— illegal importation and possession of unlicensed firearms
— illegal possession of unlicensed ammunition
— illegal importation of unlicensed ammunition

Specific charges were leveled at certain defendants according to the role they played in the incidents as revealed by security investigations:

Defendant 2 was specifically charged, along with others, of setting timers and detonators for the blasts. Defendant 6 was charged with driving a car to Kuwait airport to a place prepared by defendant 7 in order to cause the blast. Defendants 8 and 9 were charged with carrying out the Shuaybah explosion, while defendants 10 and 11 were accused of responsibility for the French Embassy incident.

Defendants 12-15 were accused of planting the bombs at the American offices and residential building, with two vehicles being used at each location to set off the blasts. Defendants 16 and 17 were specifically accused of responsibility for the explosion outside the Electricity and Water Ministry control center, although the indictment noted that in this case the coincidental absence of passersby meant that no one was killed or injured.

Defendants 20, 21 and 22 participated with the above-mentioned defendants in carrying out the eight crimes by agreeing with them on committing these actions, and the 20th defendant helped them by supplying his car to use in the explosives incidents. Therefore, the crimes had been committed with the complicity and help of those defendants.

Defendants 1-23 were accused of joining a group that aims at spreading principles calling for the destruction of basic systems through illegal means, including terrorism and force, and through using fire arms and explosives with prior knowledge of the objectives of that group. The 10th defendant trained the 11th, 16th and 17th defendants in using arms and ammunition and in the aim of using their efforts to carry out illegal objectives. The 11th, 16th and 17th defendants were trained in using firearms and ammunition by the 10th defendant with knowledge that he was aiming to get their help to achieve illegal objectives as interrogations had shown. The 21st defendant possessed a gun and ammunition for that gun without licenses from the concerned authorities.

Defendants 24 and 25 were aware of the plan to commit murder and arson but refrained from reporting that to the authorities to enable them to prevent these crimes before being carried out.

The attorney general requested the State Security tribunal to punish the defendants in accordance with the penal code articles relating to their crimes, and gave a list of the witnesses for the prosecution.

AL-QABAS Urges Tough Punishment for Terrorists

GF121726 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Manama, 12 Feb (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* Sunday urged authorities to step up efforts and develop means to combat terrorism, warning that subversive groups are also engaged in developing their style.

The paper made its call in an editorial published the day after the beginning of the trials of 25 persons involved in the December 12 explosion incidents. The chain of blasts sent shock waves across the usually peaceful country of Kuwait. At the same time, the paper urged the toughest punishments for the culprits, saying the explosions — which killed five people and wounded 85 others — were characterized by a great deal of brutality.

AL-QABAS lauded the way the authorities and the public dealt with the unprecedented disturbance in the country, but warned that Kuwait's terrorism-fighting efficiency has to be further improved.

OMAN

Fighter Planes Return After UAE Exercises

GF111544 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Muscat, 11 Feb (WAKH) — It was announced in Muscat today that the Jaguar fighter planes belonging to the Omani Air Force returned to their bases after taking part in the joint exercise in the UAE from 4 to 11 February.

Pilot Staff Colonel Muhammad Mubarak al-'Amri, the formation leader, stated that these exercises served their purpose and consisted of defense and attack operations within the framework of the objective combat tasks.

Foreign Minister Returns From Visit to India

GF111454 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Muscat, 11 Feb (WAKH) — Mr Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to his country from New Delhi this afternoon following a 4-day visit to India.

Upon his return, Mr Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah stated that during the visit he held talks with the senior officials in India on bilateral relations and exchanged views with them on the questions that are of joint interest in the international arena, particularly with regard to the Iraq-Iran war and the questions related to the Arab region, as well as issues of economic cooperation between both countries.

PDRY

YSP Chairman Sends Condolences to Soviets

GF110730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 11 Feb 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has sent a cable of condolences to the comrade members of the CPSU Central Committee and members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The following is the text of the cable:

Comrades, members of the CPSU Central Committee, and members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium:

With deep sadness and sorrow, our party and people received the news of the death of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, who devoted his life to issues, principles, and values of socialism, internationalism, and peace. Yuriy Andropov's life was linked with the noble goals and principles which the CPSU and the Soviet Union are fighting for. His name will remain alive and eternal in the memory of all progressive people who draw from Soviet communists' and citizens' determination and strength to struggle against imperialist oppression and injustice and to build a new society under socialism, freedom, and peace.

We, in the PDRY — the party, people, and government — are greatly saddened by this tragedy. We extend the deepest condolences to the CPSU and Soviet people. We affirm our pride in and appreciation for the role Comrade Andropov personally played in enhancing the bonds of Yemeni-Soviet freindship and in supporting support our Arab people's just causes.

Meanwhile, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council has announced a 4-day official mourning period, during which flags will be flown at half-mast and all forms of celebration will be canceled.

Chairman To Attend Funeral

GF121446 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, left Aden for Moscow at noon today to take part in the funeral of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, who died last Thursday as a result of a chronic illness.

The brother secretary general is accompanied by a delegation that consists of: Brother Salih Munassar as-Siyabi, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the state security committee; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, YSP Central Committee member and foreign minister; Saih Abu Bakr ibn Husanayn, YSP Central Committee member and our ambassador in Moscow; and Sulayman Nasir Muhammad, YSP Central Committee member and chairman of the National Command of the Popular Defense Committees' organization.

Ethiopian Trade Minister, Delegation Arrive

GF111918 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Chekol Wollie, minister of external trade in the Socialist Republic of Ethiopia, arrived in Aden this afternoon leading a trade delegation on a visit to our country that will last several days.

During his visit he will participate in the fourth session of the joint Yemeni-Ethiopian Economic Committee which will begin in Aden tomorrow. During its session, the committee will discuss a number of issues of cooperation between the two friendly countries in the economic and trade fields. ANA has learned that a protocol of cooperation in the trade field and exchange of trade products for 1984 will be signed between the two countries during the session.

QATAR

Amir Sends Condolences on Andropov Death

GF111450 Doha QNA in Arabic 1205 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Doha, 11 Feb (QNA) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, sent a cable of condolences to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov.

His Highness Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, the deputy amir and heir apparent, sent a similar cable of condolences.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd Said Working Toward Lebanon Resolution

LD110954 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0725 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 11 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the Kingdom's ambassador to Washington, has stressed that His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his faithful crown prince are exerting great efforts toward the situation in Lebanon.

His royal highness, in a press statement, has stated that his majesty the king is exerting his utmost effort to stop the bloodshed and is working in the direction of preserving Lebanon. His royal highness emphasized again that the Kingdom supports all the Lebanese and not just one group.

UAE

Al Nuhayyan Sends Condolences on Andropov Death

GF111936 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1726 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Feb (WAM) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has sent a condolence cable to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, in which he expressed his sincere condolences on the death of Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Oil Exports to UK May Be Increased

GF130448 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 13 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The UAE is to ask Britain to buy more oil to redress a sharp drop in its UAE oil imports, the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry said last night.

A statement said the issue would be raised at a meeting in London on Thursday of the joint UAE-British economic committee. It said Britain imported only 10.7 million barrels of UAE oil in 1982, compared with 64.1 million barrels in 1975. Britain, the ministry added, topped the list of foreign exporters to the UAE in 1981 with a total of Bd252 million worth of goods.

The UAE has a daily oil production level of 1.1 million barrels.

YAR

Salih Sends Condolences to Soviet Leaders

GF110708 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text of condolences cable sent by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Soviet leaders]

[Text] Friends, Soviet leaders in the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers:

With deep sadness and regret, I received the news of the death of the Soviet leader, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, as a result of an incurable illness.

In my own name, and in the name of the Yemeni people, government, and the General People's Congress, I send you my warmest feelings and sincerest condolences on the death of leader Andropov, whose life was full of productivity for the sake of the progress and development of the Soviet Union and support for issues of liberation and peace in the world.

On this occasion, I wish the Soviet Union greater progress and prosperity and I hope that the 45-year-old historical relations of cooperation between our countries will continue to develop and progress in the interest of our friendly countries and peoples.

Once again I repeat my condolences. Please accept my highest regards.

[Signed] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, President of the Republic, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, and Secretary General of the General People's Congress

3-Day Mourning Period for Andropov Declared

GF111952 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A responsible source at the president's office announced that in order to commemorate the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, our country has declared a 3-day official mourning period and a cancellation of all celebrations.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the responsible source said that a high-level delegation, led by 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, — vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee — will participate on behalf of our country in the funeral of the deceased Soviet leader and will convey condolences.

PLO's 'Arafat Leaves San'a' After Talks

GF110626 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, left San'a' this evening after a visit which lasted several days, during which he met with Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

In a predeparture statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said he held talks during the visit with the brother president on the situation in the Arab region, the serious events in the occupied homeland, the Zionist enemy's violations against the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the situation of the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories, and the recent serious developments in Lebanon. He said the talks also covered the result of the Islamic summit conference and the Arab situation. He added that an agreement was reached to continue contacts and consultations in this regard.

Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed his thanks to the brother president for our country's hosting of Palestinian strugglers and for the support the Yemeni people are extending to the Palestinian revolution. He said this shows the firm national, pan-Arab, and religious stand by our kinfolk in Yemen — the people, government, and leadership — foremost of whom is Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who shares all the moments of struggle and strife with the Palestinian revolution until the Palestinian people's national and inalienable rights are achieved, including their right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on their homeland.

He was seen off by Brother Dr Hasan Maki, adviser to the brother president and member of the Standing Committee; Brother Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a'; a number of Palestinian revolution officers; and a representative from the protocol department at the presidential palace.

ICO Secretary General Departs After Visit

GF101144 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1001 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti left San'a' today after a 4-day visit to the YAR.

During his visit, Chatti held talks with YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and a number of officials on the preparations for the meetings of the 15th session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, scheduled to be held here in September. He also met yesterday with PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat and discussed developments in the Palestinian cause and the current Arab and Islamic situation with him.

Mubarak, Delegation U.S. Contacts, Reaction

Arrives in Washington

JN112044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Washington, 11 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Washington at 2130, Cairo time, today on a 3-day visit to the United States. He was met on arrival by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, a large number of senior U.S. officials, Egyptian Ambassador Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, and members of the Egyptian community in the United States.

Mubarak, King Husayn Meet

JN130625 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] President Mubarak met with King Husayn of Jordan at a private dinner in Washington last night at the invitation of King Husayn. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz attended a part of the meeting, which precedes the tripartite meeting that the three leaders — Reagan, Mubarak, and King Husayn — will hold tomorrow.

'Ali Prepares for Talks

JN121739 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 12 Feb (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today held a series of meetings to prepare for the bilateral talks scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday, between President Husni Mubarak and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Kamal Hasan 'Ali began his activities with a meeting in which Mubarak's delegation, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Egypt's ambassador in Washington, and the embassy staff participated.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali also held a meeting with (Richard Pierce), U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs [name and title as received]. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the president's office for foreign affairs, and Dr Ashraf Ghurbal participated in the meeting.

'Ali Interviewed on U.S. Talks

JN130917 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 13 Feb (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has declared that the tripartite meeting which will be held tomorrow by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and King Husayn of Jordan will tackle issues of mutual concern; namely,the problems of the area in which the U.S. is playing a major role. In a statement to the MENA correspondent in Washington, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: It is natural for the talks among the three leaders to tackle the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, developments which inspire hope regarding the settlement efforts, whether on the basis of the Fes summit resolutions or the other proposed initiatives.

Asked if there will be coordination between Egypt and Jordan concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, Kaml Hasan 'Ali said: Egypt has already declared its position concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. Egypt encourages Jordan and the PLO to enter these negotiations and places all its capabilities at their disposal if it becomes essential for the Egyptian side to participate.

Commenting on the rigid U.S. attitude toward the PLO which calls for the PLO's recognition of Israel as a precondition for negotiations with the U.S. side, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: Egypt's constant request is for the United States to give up its rigid attitude toward the PLO, because we believe in encouraging moderation and moderates so as to push the peace efforts forward.

Regarding the Egyptian-French plan to promote the peace process in the Middle East, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that during his visit to Paris, President Mubarak discussed the possibilities of proposing this plan and the timing of proposing it. Undoubtedly, the plan will also be raised during the talks in Washington, he said. Kamal Hasan 'Ali added: However, the timing for the presentation of the Egyptian-French plan depends on many circumstances which cannot be predicted at the moment. The plan exists and is ready, but needs to be examined further and redrafted in light of the current positions of the various sides.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said there is no need to propose a new initiative now since the current discussions are analyzing all stands and specifying the common points which could serve as a basis for negotiations.

Asked about Egypt's position on the possible formation of a UN force to replace the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt will agree to the formation of a UN force if the Multinational Force withdraws so there will be an international presence to help maintain stability and progress toward a solution of the Lebanese crisis.

Regarding Egyptian-U.S. economic relations, which will be a major topic of discussion during President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation, and Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister fo economy, visited Washington prior to the president's arrival in the U.S. capital to discuss means of economic cooperation between Egypt and the United States. He said that Egypt gets loans and grants from the United States and that there are many other dealings between the two countries. One of the objectives of President Mubarak's visit is to guide economic cooperation between the two countries to ensure the continuation of the development process in Egypt at maximum capacity.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said the Egyptian delegation accompanying President Mubarak held a 3-hour meeting yesterday with senior State Department officials. He pointed out that the discussion during this meeting dealt with bilateral issues, political problems regarding Lebanon and the Palestine question, and the means of promoting the settlement process as well as the Iraqi-Iranian war. These same subjects will be discussed by Presidents Mubarak and Reagan tomorrow, Tuesday, he said.

It is noteworthy that the State Department meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by: Kamal Hasan 'Ali; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs; Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Egyptian ambassador in Washington; and Ahmad Tawfiq Khalifah, Egypt's UN representative. It was attended on the U.S. side by: Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state; Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. ambassador in Cairo; and several Middle East experts in the State Department.

Tripartite Summit 'Major Step'

JN130713 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 13 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-JUMHURIYAH* devotes its editorial to the Washington summit. The paper begins its article by saying the tripartite summit that President Mubarak, President Reagan, and King Husayn will hold in Washington is considered a major step toward achieving peace in the Middle East.

The paper affirms that the importance of this meeting stems from the fact that it is taking place at a time when the U.S. Administration is determined to play a clear, tangible role in solving the Middle East crisis. The paper adds: This meeting also follows the normalization of Egyptian-Palestinian relations and a major Arab-Islamic effort enabling Egypt, under the leadership of President Mubarak, to play a role commensurate with its great history in achieving a just solution to the Palestine question.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes by saying that Jordan's participation in this meeting is of great importance following the renewal of Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue to coordinate the stands of both sides in any future peace talks.

Egypt to Present Working Paper

JN130750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0728 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM* reports today that Egypt has prepared a specific working paper concerning the situation in Lebanon and the method of tackling the present crisis and the Middle East question. This paper, *AL-AHRAM* says, will be presented during the tripartite summit to be held tomorrow, Tuesday, by Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ronald Reagan, and King Husayn.

The paper points out that the Egyptian working paper has crystallized in light of Egypt's continuous firm stand on the need to achieve a peaceful solution based on the withdrawal of foreign forces from all Arab territories, including Lebanon, and moving ahead with the Palestine question.

AL-AHRAM says the Egyptian view on this subject is based on the talks which President Husni Mubarak held in African, Arab, and Western capitals.

Cairo Analyzes Summit

JN130652 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

["News analysis"]

[Text] Observers in Washington describe as important the tripartite summit that President Mubarak, King Husayn of Jordan, and U.S. President Reagan are due to hold tomorrow, Tuesday. During the meeting, the three leaders' stands on the Middle East problems will be explored. Observers also say the meeting will provide an opportunity for the three leaders to discuss the problems of the area, especially the situation in Lebanon; the means of achieving just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East; and finding a solution to the Palestinian problem. However, the observers do not expect the meeting to produce major developments toward a solution of the Middle East problem.

The tripartite meeting takes place at a time when King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will start talks soon to reach a common Jordanian-Palestinian stand on reaching a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem. The meeting also follows 'Arafat's meeting with President Mubarak in Cairo last December, a meeting which the United States viewed as an encouraging development toward solving the crisis.

President Reagan's talks with both President Mubarak and King Husayn are also expected to deal with U.S. aid to Egypt and Jordan. Egypt is scheduled to receive U.S. military aid totaling $1.177 billion, and economic aid amounting to $750 million during the fiscal year that begins next October. Jordan will get $97 million in military aid, and $25 in economic aid. The United States also intends to sell Jordan 1,913 shoulder-mounted antiaircraft missiles despite Israeli opposition.

Mubarak Receives Economic Report

JN111941 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1648 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, 11 Feb (MENA) — Before departing from Paris for Washington today, President Husni Mubarak received a report from Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, and Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation, who are in Paris. The report dealt with the outcome of the two ministers' talks in Washington.

Speaking after the meeting, Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id said the report they gave the president included the U.S. side's desire to continue to offer Egypt economic aid so that the latter can shoulder its role, particularly since the United States is cognizant of Egypt's importance in the Middle East. The U.S. side also realizes that Egypt, which is enjoying stability, needs to be supported so that it can bring about democracy. Egypt's defense requirements constitute a burden on the Egyptian economy.

Dr as-Sa'id added that during their talks in Washington, the Egyptian side raised the issue of reducing the interest rates on U.S. loans. He added that a decision in this regard will be made during President Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington. He said the talks also dealt with extending additional U.S. aid. The U.S. side promised to offer part of its aid in cash. The amount of the aid to be paid in cash next year amounts to $200 million. Dr as-Sa'id added that the issue of increasing the size of U.S. investment projects in Egypt was also discussed. U.S. investment in Egypt currently constitutes 4 percent of the total investment projects in the country. The issue of activating bilateral export was also discussed, he said.

Dr as-Sa'id added that the Egyptian side succeeded in transforming the U.S. economic and military aid as of 1985 into grants — except for the special aid for agricultural products, which totals $250 million. He added that the total amount of grants offered to Egypt amounts to $2.2 billion; $1.1 billion of that is military aid, while the remaining $1 billion is intended for various types of civilian aid. He explained that $750 million of the latter aid is allocated for projects [as received], while the other $250 million is for agricultural products. We will obtain the $250 million in the form of loans to be paid back in 40 years with a 0.03 percent interest.

Concluding his statement, Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id asked the U.S. side to use its cooperation with Egypt to focus on tangible projects, and to increase the efficiency of the current U.S. aid to Egypt by transforming the majority of the loans into grants.

It is worth mentioning that the ministers of economy and investment arrived in Paris last night following a visit to Washington during which they held intensive economic talks with U.S. officials. The two ministers will leave Paris for Cairo tomorrow, Sunday.

Mubarak, Saudi Ambassador Meet in Washington

JN130854 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0810 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received in Washington yesterday afternoon Saudi Ambassador to the United States Shaykh Bandar ibn Sultan, who is playing a prominent role in the mediation efforts among the conflicting Lebanese parties. This was reported today by the newspaper *AL-AHRAM*.

Reportage on Danish Foreign Minister's Visit

Danish Foreign Minister Arrives

JN101740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Feb (MENA) — Danish Foreign Affairs Minister Uffe Elleman-Jensen arrived in Cairo this evening on a 4-day official visit to Egypt during which he will hold talks with Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the minister of state for foreign affairs, and the ministers of agriculture, supply, and reconstruction.

Makes Arrival Statement

JN110926 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Danish Foreign Affairs Minister Uffe Elleman-Jensen made an arrival statement in which he said he is looking forward to his talks with the Egyptian officials, particularly since Egypt is currently playing a primary role in the Middle East within its attempts to achieve peace in the region. He added that the European role in achieving peace in the Middle East is represented by pushing the peace efforts forward. For this reason, the European group has called for moderation and flexibility, and invites all concerned parties to hold negotiations for the establishment of peace.

The Danish minister said the European group has affirmed that a peaceful settlement will be based on the right of the region's states to live within secure borders and the achievement of justice for all peoples of the region. Accordingly, the European group greatly condemns the construction of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, which conflicts with international law, and requests Israel to refrain from building further settlements.

Concerning the situation in Lebanon, Elleman-Jensen said it is very delicate, sad, and complicated, and added that the international forces [as heard] could not perform their duty, and expressed the hope that the United Nations would play a larger role in solving the Lebanese problem.

The Danish Foreign minister's talks will begin tomorrow evening with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and will deal with the situation in the Middle East, the European role in pushing the peace efforts forward, and bilateral relations.

Official Talks Begin 11 Feb

JN112205 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1855 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Official talks began today between Egypt and Denmark. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, led the Egyptian side, and Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Danish minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Cairo, led the Danish side. They reviewed international issues of mutual concern during the talks, and also discussed the current situation in the Middle East, especially in light of the recent deterioration in Lebanon, and the situation regarding the Palestine question.

During the talks, Dr Ghali explained Egypt's position on and efforts toward the Middle East problems as well as its emphasis on the importance of a speedy solution to the Palestine question, which constitutes the crux of the region's conflict, and the importance of the right to self-determination, which is the key to any solution of the Palestine question.

Dr Butrus Ghali also stressed the importance of taking action to secure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, to regain the Lebanese people's sovereignty over every inch of their land, and to realize national unity in Lebanon. The talks also dealt with African issues, especially in light of President Husni Mubarak's recent visit to several African states and Egypt's efforts to resolve all African problems.

The Egyptian-Danish talks also dealt with bilateral relations and the means for promoting them in various fields, especially in the economic and commercial fields, as well as with Denmark's participation in certain Egyptian development projects. The Egyptian side is comprised of Assistant Foreign Minister 'Umran ash-Shafi'i director of the ministry's Economic Department, Mukhlis Jubbah, director of the foreign minister's office, 'Ali Mahir, and several experts in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. The Danish side is comprised of the Danish foreign minister and his delegation, and the Danish ambassador in Cairo.

Uffe Ellemann-Jensen arrived in Cairo last night on a 4-day official visit to Egypt.

Danish Minister On Talks

JN112205 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen has declared his country's support for Egypt's position, which calls for the need for a stronger UN role to preserve peace in Lebanon. He expressed his appreciation for Egypt's UN role. In a statement following today's talks between the Danish and Egyptian sides, the Danish minister said Egypt's current initiatives are of special importance.

The Danish minister said Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, informed him of the Egyptian Government's views on the possible means for maintaining the momentum for peace in the Middle East. He said he and Dr Ghali discussed the current Middle East situation as well as Egypt's role in the peace process. The Danish minister also said Ghali informed him of Mubarak's current tour and the talks that he will hold in Washington. The Danish minister also expressed his government's appreciation for Egypt's role in the peace process.

Dr Ellemann-Jensen also said his talks with Dr Ghali dealt with relations between the North and South, and the possibility of an East-West dialogue. He said he briefed Dr Ghali on the results of the Stockholm conference on peace and security in Europe.

Referring to Danish-Egyptian relations, Dr Ellemann-Jensen said he hopes that the volume of trade between the two countries would increase. He said that Dr Ghali explained to him the importance of the two sides cooperating in a manner that would lead to a joint concept on extending assistance to the African states through a formula of South-South and North-South cooperation. The Danish minister stated that his country welcomes any Egyptian ideas on promoting cooperation among the world states.

Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din is due to meet with the Danish minister tomorrow, Sunday. The Danish minister will also meet with Dr Naji Shatlah, minister of supply and internal trade [name and title as received], and Hasaballah Muhammad al-Kafrawi, minister of state for housing and land reclamation.

Meets With Prime Minister

JN121508 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has received Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, who is currently visiting Cairo. The two sides discussed ways to bolster bilateral relations and both economic and trade cooperation.

Following the meeting, the Danish minister said he informed the prime minister of Denmark's grave concern over the Lebanese developments and expressed his country's hope that the process of peace in the Middle East will continue. He said Denmark appreciates the Egyptian role in this regard.

The Danish foreign minister arrived in Cairo the day before yesterday on a 4-day official visit to Egypt.

Kuwaiti Daily Interviews Kamal Hasan 'Ali

GF101847 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 9 Feb 84 p 17

[Interview with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs by *AL-ANBA'* correspondent in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] *Al-ANBA'*: Regarding your relations with Israel, the series of events which occured during the recent period reflected some level of tension. On top of these events are: Israeli refusal to accede to Egypt's request to allow 160 Palestinians to attend the PNC's meetings; reports of the death of an Egyptian in the prisons there; reports of the actions taken against the Egyptian Embassy; and recent reports about a clash between an Israeli and Egyptian patrol at Taba.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali: Regarding Taba, I don't think the matter reached the level of a clash at all. The incident was not even immediately reported because it was a minor event. This reflects a degree of exaggeration over this matter. It is a minor incident. Egypt has urged Israel to allow the 160 members of the PNC to leave so they could be the support Egypt wants for 'Arafat during the upcoming National Council meeting. This request came out of our belief that the people of the West Bank and Gaza are the ones who suffer, and any delay in resolving the issue will subject them to more and more Israeli practices and Israeli occupation. Naturally, this implies a constant dialogue with Israel in all that concerns the Palestinian issue. The protection by the Egyptian ships and aircraft of the Greek ships which evacuated 'Arafat and his men from Tripoli to Al-Hudaydah in North Yemen at the end of last December was an indication of this. If Egypt had not had relations with Israel before the peace agreement, 'Arafat's departure would have not taken place unless through military operations in Israeli national waters.

AL-ANBA': Let's go back to the events we mentioned earlier. Do they not reflect an atmosphere of tension between you and Israel?

Kamal Hasan 'Ali: Undoubtedly the Israeli refusal to report the arrest of the Egyptian in Elat was and is considered a violation of the existing diplomatic relations and also leads to doubts which have no justifications.

AL-ANBA': What about Syria, which cannot be ignored? The success of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue in itself eliminates the Syrian role, or at least that is what Syria believes.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali: The continuation of Syria's stand, which is a frozen one, will lead to the loss of the land and the cause. Thus, we have no other alternative but to choose.

Ghali Returns From Khartoum, Makes Statement

JN111558 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo today after a tour that took him to Sudan, Addis Ababa, and Djibouti. Ghali participated in the talks President Husni Mubarak held during his visit to four African states.

In an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent, Ghali said: President Mubarak's talks with the presidents of Zaire, Somalia, Kenya, and Tanzania were extremely positive, and resulted inthe strengthening of its relations with those states in the various fields. He said: The Egyptian-African talks centered on the issues of Namibia, Chad, and the Western Sahara. Egypt also participated in preparations for the African foreign ministers' conference due to convene in Addis Ababa later this month. Ghali described the Mubarak-Numayri meeting as falling within the Egyptian-Sudanese integration process and the two countries' coordination on African issues. Concluding his statment, Ghali said he met today with President Ja'far Numayri as well as with the Sudanese vice president and foreign minister to coordinate the Egyptian and Sudanese positions on the African issues and on the forthcoming African foreign ministers' conference.

Ghali Discusses Settlements With UN Delegation

JN121204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with the UN human settlements center delegation, now visiting Egypt within a fact-finding tour of the Middle East concerning the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Dr Butrus Ghali explained the Egyptian stand on the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories — the West Bank and Gaza stating that these settlements constitute an obstacle to peace. Dr Ghali noted that Israel's inhumane practices in the occupied Arab territories obstruct peace, are contrary to the UN Charter, the Geneva agreements, international law, and the peace agreement in the Middle East.

The UN delegation will prepare a comprehensive report on the results of its tour in the region, and the current and future repercussions of the Israeli settlements policy on the living conditions of the Palestinians. The delegation will present a report to the UN General Assembly comparing the living conditions of the Palestinians to those of Israeli settlers.

U.S. Nuclear Vessels Denied Entry to Suez

JN111832 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (SUNA) — The Egyptian authorities again refused to allow the U.S. nuclear vessels to pass through the Suez Canal, it was reported here today. This refusal is due to the fact that nuclear vessels might endanger the navigation in the canal, and that countries like the Soviet Union, France, and Britain might equally ask permission to allow their nuclear vessels to pass through the canal, news reported here.

Official Reaction to Andropov Death

Mubarak Condolences Noted

JN111434 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following condolence cable to the Supreme Soviet Presidium on the death of Soviet leader Andropov:

I have regretfully learned of the death of Chairman Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, following a life full of service to his people and homeland. I would like you and the family of the deceased to accept these heartfelt condolences and sincere sympathy.

Delegation To USSR

JN111354 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A delegation headed by Mamduh Salim, the president's aide, Husayn Badran, presidential secretary, and Colonel 'Asim Shams, presidential aide-de-camp, are due to leave Cairo for the Soviet Union today to extend condolences on Yuriy Andropov's death. The funeral of the Soviet leader will take place in Red Square on Tuesday.

Envoy Offers Condolences

JN121352 Cairo MENA in English 1320 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, Feb. 12 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today delegated Presidential Chamberlain 'Abd al-Mun'im Salim to offer condolences at the Soviet Embassy on the death of Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov.

Communiques, Reportage on Confrontations With Iran

No 1,368 - 10 February

JN101727 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — The Iranian forces today sustained 55 killed and many wounded in the northern sector and east of Basra.

Iraqi military communique No 1,368 said that the Iraqi air defense forces this afternoon confronted two Iranian fighter aircraft which tried to raid residential suburbs in Qal'at Dizah in the northern sector, and forced them to flee after unloading their cargo outside the city. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,368 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The sons of our glorious people and our valiant Armed Forces continue their heroic confrontation of the covetous aggressor and their defense of the honor of Iraq, its principles and sovereignty. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units pounded an enemy force which tried to approach its positions in the northern sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing 55, wounding many, destroying several weapons and military hardware of various types, and forcing the remaining enemy forces to flee.

2. At 1304 today, our air defense means confronted two enemy fighter aircraft which tried to raid residential suburbs in the Qal'at Dizah area, forcing them to unload their cargo outside the city and to flee toward the Iranian territory.

3. One of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy patrol in the area opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, pounded it with all types of weapons, killing many, and forcing the others to flee. One weapons emplacement was also destroyed.

4. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. The rancorous Iranian regime today shelled Mandali, Zurbatiyah and their suburbs, damaging several houses in Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 February 1984

No 1,369 - 11 February

JN111740 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,369 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 11 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With firm conviction in our just cause and our people's right to sovereignty and independence, our brave Armed Forces are continuing their fight against the forces of the Iranian enemy, which insists on war, aggression, and expansion. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. An enemy troop concentration and a number of enemy vehicles were sighted opposite our forward positions in the central sector of the front. Our forces opened fire and forced the enemy troops to flee after inflicting a number of casualties on them. Our forces destroyed one vehicle, one grader, and one observation post.

2. In the northern sector of the front, one of our forward units fired at a group of enemy soldiers opposite our positions. Our unit killed four and wounded others.

3. In the area east of Basra, one of our combat patrol units fired at an enemy troop concentration opposite our units, inflicting a number of casualties and destroying one machine gun emplacement.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. The Iranian ruling clique of evil and tryanny shelled Basra, Mandali and their environs as well as Zurbatiyah and Khurmal ash-Shihabi with artillery today. Two residential buildings were destroyed, and two civilian vehicles and a number of buildings were damaged in Ash-Shihabi.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 February 1984.

Dezful Area Attacked

JN110620 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

When thou threwest a handful of dust, it was not thy act, but God's. [Koranic verse]

In accordance with the military spokesman's statements on 2, 4, and 6 February this year and in view of the Iranian enemy's continued strikes on the following Iraqi towns: Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Khurmal, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandari) despite our repeated warnings, selected targets in the town of Dezful were hit this morning.

We, in turn, call on the Iranian citizens to leave the places previously mentioned in the military spokesman's statements issued on the abovementioned days. We also call on the people of Dezful, who were present when the town was hit, to leave the town because it is scheduled for subsequent blows.

God is great and victory for great Iraq.

[Dated] 11 February 1984.

Strike at Dezful Justified

GF111405 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers and sisters, [words indistinct] retaliate against the enemy in kind by directing deterrent and violent blows at selected targets deep inside Iran, and because the rancorous Iranian enemy persisted in shelling our border towns and inflicting damages on the civilian population of Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Khurmal, Sayyid Sadiq, and (Shandari), despite Iraq's repeated warnings to the enemy of the consequences of persisting in such reckless actions, selected targets inside the city of Dezful were hit this morning with great skill and a sophisticated technical ability. The targets were previously defined in the statements of the military spokesman that were broadcast on 2, 4, and 6 February 1984.

Iraq had called on the Iranian citizens in Dezful — one of the designated targets — to leave the city and called on the citizens in the other cities previously designated by the military spokesman to leave, in order to avoid the losses that they will inevitably sustain when their cities become the target of our missiles and the strikes of our brave pilots. Today's daring and capable strike demonstrated that when it says something Iraq firmly carries it out. Iraq has not struck at all the targets that were previously designated because it wants today's strike to be a tangible and realistic warning and a clear call to the citizens of Dezful and the other Iranian cities that have been designated for future strikes to leave these cities, for our next strikes will be greater, fiercer, and harder.

Iraq, which was victorious from the first days of the war and continued to be victorious throughout the battles of war, was anxious to abide by its principles and to uphold its sense of responsibility toward the peoples of Iran who have been afflicted by the Khomeyni regime. Thus Iraq has sought to spare the Iranian peoples all the harm that could befall them as a result of the persistence of the Khomeyni regime in its ugly aggression against Iraqi towns. In view of the fact that Iraq has repeated its warnings hundreds of times; and in view of the fact that Iraq has left all the doors open to any option other than war, whereas the rulers of Iran closed these doors; and in view of the fact that Iraq was compelled to punish the criminals of Iran; and because Iraq is defending life in its most shining form whereas the rulers of Iran persisted in seeking evil, Iraq is free of all responsibility of any harm that befalls the Iranian peoples.

Iraq has given its warnings and has confronted the rulers of Iran with tangible signs of Iraq's growing power to deal harsh and strong blows at distant targets deep inside Iran. In view of the fact that the rulers of Iran have not learned from all what has befallen Iran and its peoples as a result of their persistence in their war of aggression and in their vile actions, they deserve punishment. Iraq will be right in using any weapon it possesses to deter the aggressors. Iraq has proved that it has all the means to punish the aggressor and teach him harsh lessons that will make him understand that to continue the war is futile, because any aggressive adventure carried out by the enemy will be a quick road to his certain suicide.

Blessed be the capable arms and enlightened brains of our heroes who have bravely and ably struck their effective blows, confusing and frightening the charlatan rulers of Iran. Blessed be Iraq with its great Army, noble people, and its outstanding and victorious leader, Marshal Saddam Husayn.

Saddam Husayn Chairs Military Meeting

JN111334 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn chaired a military meeting this morning. Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; and a number of the Armed Forces Command members attended the meeting.

Spokesman Denies Iranian Incursion

JN111755 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1742 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military commander in the northern sector of the front has denied that there are any Iranian movements toward the Darbandi-Khan area. In a statement to INA tonight, the commander ridiculed Iranian claims that the Iranian forces have advanced 15 km in that area. He said: These are nonsensical statements that reflect the collapse in the enemy morale. He affirmed that the Darbandi-Khan area is completely calm. No force can disturb this calm, he added.

Petrochemical Complex, Abadan Hit

JN121825 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Military Communique No 1,370 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. So make no haste against them, for we but count out to them a limited number of days. [Koranic verse]

As the sinful enemy, the ally of Zionism, continues its reckless policy and acts of aggression against great Iraq, it finds our struggler people and capable and brave Army more determined to continue their brave struggle and honorable fighting against the suspect aggressors in defense of their homeland, honor, and sovereignty. The results are as follows:

1. Since 0630 this morning, the criminal enemy has been implementing a new crime which will be added to the record of its previous crimes. It shelled the towns of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, Khormal, Sayyid Sadiq, and Chandri with heavy artillery. This savage shelling caused the following damage and losses in lives and properties: In the city of Basra: 13 martyrs, and 85 injured including children, old people, and women; and the destruction of 13 houses, 4 commercial stroes, and various damage to the city's hospital and 11 civilian cars. In the town of Mandali: 1 martyr and 4 injured; and damage to 70 houses, the town's hospital, an intermediate

school, three commercial stores, and three civilian cars. In the town of Ash-Shihabi; three houses destroyed. In the town of Zurbatiyah: damage to several houses and civlian installations. In the town of Khanaqin: damage to several civilian installations. In Khormal: one house destroyed. In Sayyid Sadiq and Chandri; damage to civilian properties and installations.

Adding to the statement made by the spokesman of the Armed Forces General Command this morning that Iraq will reply to the Iranian aggression in the manner that it deserves and will deter it; and as a result of the continuous stupidies of the ignorant rulers in Iran and their mean and criminal acts against our people and the security of our country; and for continuing to strike at our towns, harm our people, and cause damage to their civilian properties; with God's help, Bandar-e Khomeyni and the petrochemical complex in Bandar-e Khomeyni were hit at noon today. The strikes were successful and effective. We will continue to strike at these installations until they are completely destroyed.

In reply to the shelling of the city of Basra, enemy fire was returned and the sources of fire were silenced this morning. Our artillery and the Army's Air Force hit selected targets in Abadan and other areas in the sector of the III Army Corps.

In reponse to the shelling of the towns of Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, (Shandri), Khormal, and Ash-Shihabi, selected targets in the towns of Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab were also hit.

Let the aggressors know that the targets we previously declared as other targets, will be hit by the appropriate means and at the appropriate time so long as the enemy persists in its aggression, and expresses, by its usual stupidity, its black hatred against our people and its lack of any sense of responsibility toward the Iranian peoples. We are thus exercising the legitimate right of defending our people and their interests.

2. Our brave helicopters today carried out combat missions against enemy troop concentrations in the northern operational sector and scored direct and effective hits. They inflicted on the enemy heavy losses in personnel and equipment. All our helicopters returned safely, praise be to God.

3. A concentration of enemy personnel and armor was seen before the positions of our frontline units in the northern operational sector. Our units engaged this concentration with various weapons, killing two of the enemy and injuring several others and also hitting several enemy vehicles , setting them on fire.

4. Our combat patrols opened fire with various weapons on an enemy patrol which tried to approach the positions of one of our frontline units in the area east of Basra. Our patrols killed four of the enemy and wounded several others and destroyed one infantry position.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 February 1984.

Spokesman on Iraqi Cities Shelled

JN120811 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0745 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

A spokesman for the Armed Forces General Command has stated the following.

This morning, the criminal enemy carried out a new crime when it shelled Mandali, Basra, and Khanaqin in spite of our repeated warnings that we will reply to such acts in the appropriate manner and in accordance with our declared policy of responding to the aggression in a manner that will deter it. Therefore, we will use part of the deterring means that we possess to reply to the criminal aggression in the manner that it deserves to be confronted. Let the suspect enemy, the ally of Zionism know that unless it desists from its frivolous policy and halts its aggression against Iraq, Iraq will exhaust it and will run it into the ground, God willing.

The Iranian people are urged to put pressure on their rulers to have them respond to the call for the conclusion of an agreement banning aggression against cities and villages. Otherwise, many great catastrophes will befall them as a result of their rulers' demented and suspect policies. 12 February 1984.

Foreign Ministry Briefs Envoys on Warnings to Iran

JN111256 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi Foreign Ministry continued its intensive meetings with the diplomatic missions to expain the reasons for the issuance of the two military statements on the 2d and 4th of this month regarding strikes against selected targets deep inside Iran. Foreign Ministry Under Secretaries 'Ismat Kittani and Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf summoned the ambassadors of the Arab countries, Asian states, and Japan in Baghdad and explained to them the humanitarian dimensions behind these two warnings. They also emphasized the Iraqi leadership's eagerness to keep the Iranian citizens away from harm, and added that the selected targets mentioned in the Iraqi warnings include military and strategic positions which constitute basic links in the Iranian war effort. They also briefed the ambassadors on the military spokesman's statement today regarding the strikes dealt to the Iranian regime's military targets, troop concentrations, and the Khomeyni guards in Dezful.

More Ambassadors Summoned

JN121456 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi Foreign Ministry today continued the intensive meetings it began on Thursday with the diplomatic missions in Baghdad to explain the reasons for the issuance of two previous military statements on striking selected targets in [word indistinct] Iranian towns. Foreign Ministry Under Secretaries 'Ismat Kittani and Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf summoned the socialist, African, and Latin American states' ambassadors in Baghdad and emphasized to them the humanitarian motives behind these two warnings. They stressed the Iraqi leadership's eagerness to keep the Iranian citizens away from harm and indicated that the selected targets contain military and strategic positions which constitute basic links in the Iranian war effort. They also briefed the ambassadors on the Iranian regime's crime at dawn today when it shelled civilian targets and densely populated areas in Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin, affirming that the Tehran regime has thus added another crime to its record of crimes against Iraq. They also briefed them on the military spokesman's statement yesterday on pounding military targets and concentrations of both the Iranian regime's troops and Khomeyni guards in Dezful. The two under secretaries emphasized that Iran will be held fully responsible for the consequences of its persistence in continuing the war and rejecting the international initiatives and resolutions which call for halting the fighting. In this regard, they pointed out Iran's rejection of the UN Security Council resolutions, the latest being Resolution No 540 of 31 October 1983. The two under secretaries stressed the importance of pressuring Iran into stopping its shelling of the Iraqi towns and villages, concluding an agreement banning attacks on civilian targets, stopping its aggression on Iraq, and solving the conflict in a just and honorable manner in accordance with international law.

Iranians Shell Cities 13 February

JN130950 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0932 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As for them, they are but plotting a scheme, and I am planning a scheme. Therefore grant a delay to the unbelievers: Give respite to them gently for awhile. [Koranic verse]

A military spokesman has stated the following:

The mean Iranian enemy today shelled the cities of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, and Khurmal causing loss of life and damage to property. The criminal Iranian regime's indulgance in shelling our peaceful cities shows the extent of the war spirit and crimes of the Iranian ruling clique. In order to deter the treacherous Iranian regime and in retaliation for its savage, reckless practices, we will vehemently strike selected Iranian targets deep inside Iranian territory. God is great. Victory is for great Iraq. [Dated] 13 February 1984

Saddam Husayn Sends Condolences to USSR

JN111450 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Feb 84

["Text" of condolence cable President Saddam Husayn sent on the death of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium — date not specified]

[Text] CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: I and my comrades in the leadership of the party and state in Iraq have received the report of the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, with the utmost grief and sorrow. We express the deepest pain on this occasion, and give our deepest condolences to you and the family of the deceased. We wish continued progress and success for the friendly people of the Soviet Union, and for the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries in order to serve the joint interests of our people and to contribute to peace and security in the world.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Iraqi Republic.

3-Day Mourning for Andropov

JN111802 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Statement issued by the presidential office]

[Text] Iraq received with utmost grief and sorrow the report of the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On this sad occasion, it has been decided to announce a 3-day official mourning period in the Republic of Iraq, beginning on Sunday, 12 February 1984.

[Signed] Ahmad Husayn, chief of the presidential office.

Delegation to Funeral Named

JN121927 Baghdad Doemstic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] INA has learned that Iraq will participate in the funeral of the departed Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov with a delegation led by Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president of the republic. The delegation comprises Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member, deputy prime minister, and foreign minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Moscow.

Delegation Departs for USSR

JN130909 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf left Baghdad for Moscow today to participate in the funeral of the late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov. The funeral will take place tomorrow. Ma'ruf is accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

King Arrives in Washington, Meets With Mubarak

JN130618 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur arrived in Washington last night from the state of Colorado. Their majesties were received on arrival by Secretary of State George Shultz, the Jordanian ambassador in Washington, and Jordan's permanent UN representative.

His Majesty King Husayn received last night at his place of residence in Washington Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, who is currently visiting the United States. President Mubarak and his wife dined with His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur.

His Majesty King Husayn will meet in the White House today with U.S. President Reagan. His Majesty will also receive Secretary of State George Shultz at his place of residence.

AD-DUSTUR Views Husayn-Reagan Meeting

JN130855 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Husayn-Reagan Meeting," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The U.S. Administration will once again be put to a real and direct test when its declared intentions for peace in the Middle East are explored. This will be done through today's meeting in Washington between His Majesty King Husayn and President Reagan.

After the latest developments in the Middle East, where the United States finds itself in a difficult dilemma, it has become necessary for the U.S. Administration to begin a comprehensive reappraisal of its policy in this region. A number of conditions have ripened recently for putting the United States' declared peace intentions into practice before hesitation, uncertainty, and lack of decision kill every U.S. initiative in this field. The United States has reached this dilemma because of Washington's helpless stand when faced with the accelerated Israeli settlement policy in the occupied West Bank, its overlooking the Israeli methods and stands of partition in Lebanon, and because of U.S. involvement in the strategic alliance with the Israeli authorities. These things have all resulted in the United States' losing the chance it once had to push peace settlement efforts one step further.

AD-DUSTUR adds: Now, after all this erosion in the U.S. stands and credibility and after the United States has taken positions that do not suit its role as a superpower with special responsibility toward achieving peace and security in the world, Washington must do a lot to requalify for playing a constructive and neutral role in this turbulent region. There is no alternative to recognizing the interests and rights of all sides, especially the internationally recognized legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: While we realize that the U.S. Administration will listen very closely to the king's points of view, which stem from his majesty's deep experience and comprehensive vision, we hope Washington will seize this opportunity to seek a great Arab leader's opinion on all events, circumstances, and disasasters in the region. We also deeply hope that Washington, after all that has recently happened to it, will stop looking at this region from one angle — the angle dominated by Israeli interests and the one that has led for many years to the United States' successive failures and stumbling.

King Sends Condolences to USSR; Delegation Named

JN111505 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium expressing in his name and on behalf of Jordan — people and government — deep regret, sorrow, and heartfelt condolences to the Soviet people and the Soviet leadership on the death of the Soviet leader, Andropov. His majesty also recalled the late chairman's efforts to continue to strengthen Jordanian-Soviet relations in various fields in the service of the two friendly countries and peoples. He also expressed the Arab nation's appreciation for the firm Soviet position in supporting the just Arab causes, especially the Palestine question and the Palestinian Arab people's right to regain their homeland and to self-determination on their national soil.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, sent a similar of condolence cable on Chairman Andropov's death.

An official Jordan delegation will participate in the funeral of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presisium. The delegation, which will include Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, will be led by Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

It was announced in Moscow today that the Soviet leader's funeral will be held in Moscow's Red Square on Tuesday. The short statement issued by the funeral committee, led by Konstantin Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, did not give any other details.

Andropov will be buried behind Lenin's tomb in front of the Kremlin wall.

Al-Masri, Tash at USSR Embassy

JN121535 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Amman, 12 Feb (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and Foreign Ministry Secretary General Walid Tash visited the Soviet Embassy in Amman today where they extended their condolences on the death of Soviet President Yuriy Andropov. They registered their names in the condolences book.

AR-RA'Y Editorial

JN111057 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, *AR-RA'Y* writes on the death of Soviet leader Yuri Andropov. The paper says: In light of the just stands adopted by the USSR toward the Arab cause, the Arabs share with the Soviet people and government the regret over the death of Chairman Yuri Andropov.

Although it would be premature to predict the results of the Kremlin's transitional period until a new Soviet chairman is elected or to predict the new chairman's course of action, NATO sources believe that Soviet decisionmaking will be frozen during this period. Whether or not this conviction is correct, its declaration will produce fears that cannot be ignored. If Soviet decisionmaking is viewed as frozen, then this conviction may encourage the U.S. Administration to continue imposing its hegemony over the Palestine cause and to deal unilaterally with it. This is in addition to the United States' becoming extremist in its practices in the Lebanese arena, as witnessed by the recent intensive U.S. naval shelling of Lebanese villages. The evidence of this possibility is that the evacuation of U.S. and European personnel from Lebanon is escalating, as if the Lebanese arena is about to witness a new escalation from the U.S. forces.

The U.S. Administration will, beyond doubt, commit new and dangerous mistakes, which will be added to its previous mistakes, if it bases its calculations and behavior on the assumption that Soviet decisionmaking will be frozen. It is obvious that the Arab rejection of U.S. hegemony over the Palestine cause and the fierce Lebanese resistance to the U.S. practices in Lebanon are real evidence of Arab rejection of any hegemony and interference. This rejection cannot be frozen at all.

AR-RA'Y concludes: In light of this outcome, the U.S. Administration must be aware and must not fall prey to mistaken calculations that will help the situation in the region deteriorate and harm the U.S. reputation even further.

Prince Hasan Telephones Iraqi President

JN121841 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, held a telephone contact with President Saddam Husayn and acquainted himself with the situation on the Iraqi front following the repeated aggressions the Iranian forces are launching against civilians in Iraqi border cities.

AD-DUSTUR Criticizes Arab Summit Postponement

JN101423 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 10 Feb 84

[from the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Have summit Conferences Lost Their Role?" *AD-DUSTUR* says: The Arab League secretary general announced the day before yesterday that the 13th Arab summit conference has been postponed until further notice. This announcement causes us to mourn the role of the Arab summit conferences.

All Arab citizens are aware that the Arab summit conferences have always aimed at coordinating and mobilizing Arab efforts to confront the dangerous challenges that threaten the Arab countries' security and peace. The first Arab summit, which the late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir called in 1964, aimed at confronting the Israeli conspiracy against the Jordan River. In the same way, the other Arab summits in Cairo, Khartoum, Rabat, Baghdad, Amman, and Fes aimed at solving problems, confronting dangers, and containing differences at times when ordeals and challenges escalated. However, the new Arab concepts of the summit conferences are the opposite of the old concepts, because some parties want these conferences to be formal and have nothing to do with the crises of the Arab situation or the dangers threatening the Arab homeland. They also want these summits to convene in an environment that has no flaws.

AD-DUSTUR continues: The Arab citizen wonders with surprise as he listens to Klibi's statement that the Arab summit has been postponed until further notice. This announcement was made while the bloody fighting in Lebanon is reaching a very dangerous stage and threatening the Lebanese homeland with more than division — that is, turning Lebanon into an arena for confrontation between the superpowers; while the Arab and Islamic bleeding continues at the eastern gate of the Arab world, and the tragic Iraqi-Iranian war is in its fourth year; while the settlements onslaught is escalating in Palestine, Israeli laws are being implemented in the West Bank and Gaza, and Al-Aqsa is threatened by Jewish extremist conspiracies that may bring the mosque down onto the heads of those who pray in it each day. All of this does not seem to be justification, for some Arabs, to hold an Arab summit conference to discuss the means of confronting these dangers.

Hence, Jordan greatly regrets the postponement of the 13th summit, because Jordan is fully aware that the only alternative for the summit will be further deterioration of the Arab situation and more divisions and fragmentations that will threaten the Arab nation with great dangers.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Do the Arab parties obstructing the convening of the Arab summit realize what mistake they are committing against the Arab nation and what catastrophes the Arabs may face by depriving the summit conferences of their content and role and allowing the policies of blocs and axes to take over the place of these conferences?

Al-Jumayyil Initiative Reported, Reaction

Broad-Based Government Sought

NC130629 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] At an informal meeting with newsmen yesterday, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil stated that he wishes to form a government representative of all Lebanese factions, adding that this government will be formed during the Geneva conference. In principle, this conference is to be convoked on 27 February.

President al-Jumayyil said: This government will be the result of a solution, not the solution itself. He added: If we agree on the major options at the Geneva conference, it will be easy to form a new government.

With regard to Walid Junblatt's demand that the president of the Republic resign, President al-Jumayyil said: Persons are unimportant. However, the institutions are more important than persons. Under the aegis of democracy, every citizen has the right to make this demand. The president added: We most certainly have domestic problems — and this happens in all democratic states. The difference between what happens in the democratic states and what happens in Lebanon is that external factors postpone domestic issues, and internal conflicts assume international, and at times bloody dimensions. He said: When the Lebanese are left to themselves and show good intentions, they then can find a compromise solution. We are now capable of finding this historical compromise.

Says Will Not Resign

NC131110 Beirut Domestic Service in English 0905 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil, speaking to a group of foreign correspondents late yesterday, indicated that the National Reconciliation Conference scheduled to be held on February 27 could be convened at an earlier date. President Amin al-Jumayyil said he would not resign and counted on continued support from President Ronald Reagan. The president told newsmen at his senior adviser, Ghassan Tuwayni's, mountaintop retreat at Bayt Miri he expected a broadly-based new government to be announced at the second Reconciliation Conference in Switzerland on February 27.

Dr Tuwayni could not say if the conference — a followup to October's Geneva Conference — would be held. It can take place if there is agreement on the mechanism, he said.

President al-Jumayyil said: I assure you we are able to reach a compromise. The presidential institution is more important than the person.

Dr Tuwayni and [Foreign Minister] Dr Elie Salim, also present, said Mr al-Jumayyil would present a 28-point program [words indistinct] to be discussed in Switzerland. The reforms include the establishment of a senate, a change in the present six to five system of (?representation) in Parliament, [word indistinct] and a new nonconfessional identity card.

Despite President Reagan's announcement that the U.S. Marines, who support Mr al-Jumayyil's government, are to be withdrawn from Beirut Airport to ships offshore, Mr al-Jumayyil said: I am sure President Reagan is fully committed to help the Lebanese. Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim said the United States sent the Lebanese Government a message on Saturday, saying the American commitment would be intensified to train the Lebanese Army. Most important is the American backing of the political aspects of Lebanon, Mr al-Jumayyil said. Everyone knows the military option is not the best, but the military might be used by the U.S. Government only as a backing to redress the balance in the field [sentence as heard] As to West Beirut, Dr Tuwayni called it an invisible part of the capital.

President al-Jumayyil would only say: In a matter of hours, or days, the situation will be solved.

Dr Salim and Rafiq al-Hariri, Saudi Arabia's Lebanon negotiator, left for Riyadh on Sunday. There is no Saudi plan, nothing that Mr al-Hariri brings is new but a reassessment. I hope the Syrians will get involved, Dr Salim said. The Saudis are trying to help. I am sure the Saudis will remain strong supporters of the Lebanese people, but they wouldn't fight, Mr al-Jumayyil said.

President al-Jumayyil appeared fresh and cheerful despite the most severe crisis in his 18 months of presidency. On the chances of reconcilaition between Lebanon's factions, President Amin al-Jumayyil said: You will be surprised to see the Lebanese people eating lunch together and hugging each other.

Proposed Program Highlights

NC122122 Paris AFP in English 2113 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Beirut, Feb 12 (AFP) — President Amin al-Jumayyil will propose a 28-point [as received] reform program at the conference of National Reconciliation scheduled for February 27 in Geneva, an authorized source said today. The program includes the creation of a senate, the proportional representation of Christians and Moslems in the current Parliament, and an end to the listing of a subject's religion on identity cards. Other points include the end of confessionalism in the civil service, the election of the president by 55 percent of the Chamber of Deputies, and the appointment of a prime minister by the Chamber.

PSP Raps Proposed Reforms

NC130832 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] In a final bid to win time and contain the broad patriotic and popular wrath against him and the conduct of his regime and army, the shah of B'abda is desperately presenting reforms, including the abolishment of factionalism and the formation of a senate. Nevertheless, the 17 May agreement remains the trump card for establishing the time-frame of the political or military resolution through the forces of President-candidate Reagan. Al-Jumayyil is doing all he can to hold onto the presidency at the expense of the homeland and territory, and in spite of the massacres he perpetrated.

In Al-Jumayyil's opinion, the convening of the second Geneva Dialogue Conference should inevitably be based on a previously achieved internal conciliation.

This is how the B'abda shah hopes to emerge from his crisis of demise. No doubt the 17 May agreement has the final word. Following the [first] Geneva Conference, Al-Jumayyil was personally entrusted with untying this knot with his masters in Washington in order to abrogate the agreement. However, he procrastinated until the massacres of the southern suburb took place at the hand of his masters' forces and those of his regime's.

The Lebanese people are not stupid and cannot be fooled to this extent. The recent events in the suburb and Beirut have altered everything. The patriotic forces, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Amal Movement have brought a change in the concept of authority. The shah of B'abda must understand that we won the battles of the mountain, the suburb, and Beirut. He must also understand that we will not tolerate the imposition of the minority's dictatorship on the Muslim factions. What is taking place in patriotic Beirut, following its liberation from oppression and domination, is only a first step on the road of the homeland's future march toward the abrogation of factionalism and all resolutions which led to Phalangist factional rule. Let the Army become an Army of all the homeland and keep it away from the internal strife.

Al-Jumayyil Intensifies Contacts for Solution

NC121244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has intensified his contacts and meetings with senior officials to consult with them on ways to ease the situation and try to achieve the sought-after solutions. President al-Jumayyil met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, during which they discussed the proposed formulas to remedy the current situation. He also maintained constant contact with Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri who is making intensive contacts with political and spiritual leaders to bring the various views closer to achieve agreement on a formula that will lead the country out of the dark tunnel in which it finds itself.

Government Policy Regarding MNF, UN Force

Government Contacts, Stance

NC101814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry today intensified its contacts with the Lebanese ambassadors at the United Nations, Washington, Paris, London, and Rome for consultations regarding the outcome of the current contacts at the UN Security Council level for the deployment of UN Forces in place of the Multinational Force in Lebanon. A well-informed diplomatic source at the Foreign Ministry has said that the Lebanese Government's stance regarding this subject is firm. The government adheres to the Multinational Force until it concludes the mission for which it came to Lebanon. The UN Forces will arrive after a comprehensive political solution is reached in Lebanon.

Conditions for Accepting UN Force

NC112029 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Amidst talk of a plan to replace the Multinational Force with a UN force, a Lebanese source disclosed that Lebanon stipulates that the UN force's mission should include all Lebanese territory; that it should be charged with deterring anyone obstructing its mission; and that guarantees should be given that the Syrians and Israelis will withdraw from all points in Lebanon.

Sources Outline Regime's Five Priorities

NC101949 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] New developments have emerged with respect to dealing with the crisis. These developments raise hopes for a quick solution to the current political, security, and economic situation. All parties are eager to reactivate the political process to reduce the clashes, open the doors to dialogue and reconciliation, end the round of violence and counterviolence, and focus on arranging the affairs of the Lebanese homeland on the basis of a common destiny among the Lebanese. The Lebanese people have paid the price of foreigners' wars on their territory while they harbor only respect for others and ask for noninterference in their own affairs. The Lebanese hope they will receive complete understanding from their brothers and full support from their friends.

According to well-informed sources, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today held several contacts with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri and asked him to come to Lebanon or Larnaca to finish discussing certain questions raised during Minister Salim's talks with Saudi officials. These discussions will center on the details of certain questions relating to the eight points President al-Jumayyil outlined in his recent message to the Lebanese, in preparation for the reform program.

These sources said the Lebanese regime's position continues to be based on the following five priorities:

1. To arrive at a stable and comprehensive cease-fire.

2. To convene the second round of the National Dialogue Conference in Montreux.

3. To seek the formation of a national unity government.

4. To enable the state to deal with certain new situations resulting from the latest security developments in Greater Beirut so that the state will not hesitate in assuming its responsibility toward the citizens during this critical phase, be it social assistance or reopening roads. It will be impermissible to create a situation similar to that which followed the 1975 and 1976 events. The state will respond as fully as possible to the spiritual leaders' appeals.

5. To intensify the political contacts with all parties prior to the second round of the National Dialogue Conference.

The same sources expressed full satisfaction with the Saudi role, noting that the convocation of the second round of the National Dialogue Conference will depend on the success of the new Saudi initiative.

Well-informed sources expect a meeting soon among the Lebanese, Saudi, and Syrian foreign ministers to follow up talks regarding several questions which must be confronted to end the current political and security situation.

This meeting is an attempt to end current events. The sources added that the situation will improve during the next 48 hours.

Reportage on Saudi Mediator Al-Hariri's Visit

Meets Salim 11 Feb

NC111216 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Telephone dispatch from correspondent Joe Sa'adah at the Presidential Palace on 11 February — recorded]

[Text] While contacts and efforts are continuing to find formulas for a political solution to the current Lebanese crisis, now that the mad violence has subsided, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri arrived in Beirut and proceeded to the Presidential Palace where he is now meeting with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. The discussions will center on ways to convene a meeting between Minister Salim and his Saudi and Syrian counterparts, Sa'ud al-Faysal and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, respectively. This would be accomplished by paving the way for contacts that would contribute to improving the atmosphere and to ensuring that such a meeting would be held in a calm atmosphere.

Since this morning, President al-Jumayyil has been holding meetings with his senior aides and advisers and contacting influential capitals to loosen the knots still obstructing the establishment of complete calm and to secure a solid basis for convening the second round of the National Dialogue Conference. Furthermore, President al-Jumayyil has shown an interest in the conditions of the citizens in West Beirut as well as in improving those conditions in a manner that will ensure the safety of the citizens and secure their living requirements.

Attends Islamic Meeting

NC112155 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] An Islamic plenary meeting was held this afternoon at the residence of Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic. Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri attended the meeting. The conferees discussed the developments in the Lebanese situation, particularly the events in West Beirut. They also discussed the outcome of current contacts to ease the political situation, consolidate the cease-fire, and reopen the crossing points between the two sectors of Beirut.

After the meeting, Mufti Khalid made the following statement:

A meeting was held at this residence attended by Honorable Brothers Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council; former Prime Ministers Sa'ib Salam, Rashid as-Sulh, and Salim al-Huss; Malik Salam; Deputy Husayn al-Husayni; and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. The meeting was also attended by Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri.

The conferees were briefed on the Saudi efforts to help Lebanon emerge from its current ordeal. They discussed the serious situation in the country following the recent developments, and particularly focused on the need to maintain efforts with seriousness and persistence to implement security arrangements. These arrangements will ensure the citizens' safety and consolidate stability, and will also bring order and calm through the deployment of the Internal Security Forces and Lebanese Army forces present in West Beirut. These arrangements should be coupled with a final cease-fire along the contact lines, prior to abolishing these lines as quickly as possible. These arrangements should also be coupled with the reopening of the crossing points between the two sectors of Beirut, thereby affirming the unity of the capital and subsequently, the unity of the Lebnaese people.

The conferees discussed the state of siege of West Beirut and put on record their absolute rejection of this intolerable situation. The conferees discussed various aspects of the Islamic position in light of recent developments. The conferees' views were identical in supporting the unity of the Islamic position regarding the situation Beirut is experiencing and the condition of our people in the south, whose heroism and steadfastness the conferees noted.

The conferees gave Rafiq al-Hariri a verbal message to deliver to Saudi officials expressing their appreciation for the efforts which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is exerting to bring safety and stability to the Lebanese homeland and people.

Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri went to the Presidential Palace after the meeting to brief officials on its outcome. The contacts will resume tomorrow.

Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC111255 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1245 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this afternoon received Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, with Foreign Minister Salim and adviser Wadi' Haddad attending. Current developments were discussed.

Proposes Plan, Departs

NC120630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Saudi King Fahd's envoy Rafiq al-Hariri returned to Beirut yesterday and met with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. He then left B'abda Palace and met with most of the Islamic political and religious leaders at the residence of Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Republic. In the evening, Al-Hariri returned to East Beirut. Sources close to Al-Hariri said he left Lebanon for Larnaca, Cyprus, last night en route to Damascus to brief Syrian officials on the results of his talks in Lebanon and to continue the discussion of a number of issues.

It was reported that Al-Hariri brought a 10-point draft solution to Beirut. The most important points are: The convening of the second round of the National Dialogue Conference, the formation of a government of national unity, and the remedying of the security situation. The reports pointed out that discussions are focusing on a way to decide the fate of the [17 May] agreement, and that one method is currently under study; namely, a meeting in Geneva or somewhere else in Switzerland, such as Montreaux, and the adoption of a unanimous decision in this respect. If this method is approved, it will hasten the second round of the Dialogue Conference — which President al-Jumayyil had originally set for 27 February — on the grounds that the situation cannot tolerate further delay.

It is likely that a Lebanese-Syrian-Saudi meeting will be held at the foreign minister level as soon as Al-Hariri's efforts achieve a minimum degree of understanding.

Shaykhani Statement After Meeting Al-Jumayyil

NC111833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has followed up the current developments and met with Information Minister Roger Shaykhani who, upon leaving the Presidential Palace, made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Shaykhani] The present difficult circumstances through which the country and homeland are passing demands that all of us — officials and citizens alike — rise above all narrow stances and political calculations, so as to be able to confront the fateful phase with great awareness of current events. If the present situation continues, the dangers surrounding us will threaten the homeland's entity, continuity, and unity of its sons. Therefore, the leaders are required at this particular phase to adopt a stance stemming from their conscience to save the homeland from its ordeal.

While the regime's attention is focused on tackling the political and security affairs stemming from a national, comprehensive, and unified concept, the regime is also interested in ensuring the security, social, and supply situation for the citizens suffering from the difficult conditions at this phase. The state will also carry out its duties in this respect as in all other affairs. On this occasion I must congratulate the Civil Defense and Security Forces who, at Prime Minister al-Wazzan's orders yesterday, travelled to certain areas deprived of supplies. I must also announce that the president informed me this morning that he has asked all departments and ministries to pay attention to all Lebanese areas, be it in respect of supplies or security.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, we have learned that intensive contacts will be held within the next 24 hours?

[Shaykhani] In fact, these contacts have not been discontinued. I have held, and will today, personally hold contacts to crystallize the political and security situation in our one and unified country. [end recording]

Dany Sham'un Meets Al-Jumayyil, Makes Statement

NC102006 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil tonight received Dany Sham'un with whom he discussed the current developments. After the meeting, Dany Sham'un said:

[Begin recording] The atmosphere during my talks with the president was excellent. The talks were detailed, in-depth, and very useful. I was abroad during the recent difficult days which Beirut and all the mountain areas experienced, including the indiscriminate shelling. How are we going to resolve this question and arrive at an inter-Lebanese conference at which we will speak frankly and bring an end to the chaotic situation. The United States has intervened and put an end to the indiscriminate shelling. However, the more serious aspect is the clashes continuing along the so-called traditional axes. These are assuming a very ugly character; namely, that of Muslim against Christian. This is the ugliest situation I have ever seen. It is necessary to bring a speedy cease-fire along these axes and reopen the roads between the two sectors of Beirut. We will then convene a national conference for reconciliation. We will come together as Lebanese, and as no one else, and will turn the page of the so-called Lebanese conflict. [end recording]

Chamber of Deputies To Meet 14 February

NC111738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies speaker Kamil al-As'ad has set this coming Tuesday as the new date for the Chamber of Deputies meeting originally scheduled for today, and expressed the hope that the security situation would allow the meeting to be held. Speaker al-As'ad arrived this morning at Mansur Palace, but the security situation prevented several deputies from attending, thus forcing a postponement.

Camille Sham'un Calls for Implementing 17 May Accord

NC121423 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Statement by former President Camille Sham'un; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] We find it of utmost necessity to make the following remarks before discussing any possible Saudi proposals. The abrogation of the 17 May agreement is not an easy matter for several important reasons, including:

1. A large segment of the Lebanese people believes it necessary to implement that agreement because its implementation is the only means to liberate Lebanese territory in the south and Al-Biqa' from Israeli occupation, while its abrogation would

subject this vast section of Lebanon to a long occupation of unknown duration, which might even be final.

2. Three states participated in preparing and signing the 17 May agreement. One of these is the United States, with which we are in agreement in all political, military, economic, and diplomatic fields. The U.S. Forces' presence in Lebanese waters and on Lebanese soil is among the vital guarantees for the liberation of Lebanon [words indistinct]. These guarantees are becoming firmer and more effective every day, if we take into consideration the initiatives that the U.S. Administration is taking daily to consolidate security in Beirut and the suburbs.

It is illogical to agree to unilaterally abrogate the 17 May agreement contrary to the view of one of its signatories, particularly since this party is the United States.

3. Damascus is persistently calling for the agreement's abrogation. We, in turn, persistently demand the liberation of Lebanese territory from the Syrian armed presence. Is Damascus ready to immediately withdraw from Lebanon if Lebanon abrogates the 17 May agreement?

4. We include this basic condition because of our certainity that Syria has ambitions in Lebanon which it will not give up. These ambitions have been transformed into a [word indistinct] occupation since 1978, when the Syrian guns and rockets shelled the peaceful Lebanese quarters and villages merely because of our demand that Lebanon be liberated from all foreign military presences. This attack was repeated in 1981 in Zahlah and Al-Ashrafiyah for roughly 3 months, and is now being repeated with the participation of Lebanese, Khomeynites, Palestinians, and mercenaries, without any reason or justification.

We therefore believe that the Lebanese side must be alert and vigilant and must not adopt any step toward abrogating the 17 May agreement or discussing it before the aforementioned four clauses are examined and approved by the parties concerned.

Franjiyah Denies Salvation Front Differences

NC101914 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1817 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Interview granted by former President Sulayman Franjiyah to a Voice of the Mountain reporter; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Your Excellency the president: [words indistinct] spreading rumors to the effect that there has been a disagreement among the Salvation Front leadership. What is your view?

[Franjiyah] This is what those factions wish. However, you may emphasize that the Salvation Front is one and united regardless of the number of its members. Lebanon is in need of salvation and the Salvation Front exists and will remain united, God willing.

[Reporter] Your Excellency: What is your opinion on the direct U.S. interference in Lebanese events?

[Franjiyah] The American is brought up with a cowboy mentality. It is a misfortune for the American people and Lebanon that a cowboy actor heads the American people. He has become accustomed to playing the part of a cowboy and is still influenced by the cowboy mentality. The United States is one of the greatest powers in the world and this man rules with a cowboy's mentality. Nothing but right prevails in the end and this will not last [word indistinct].

[Reporter] How do you view [words indistinct] the Lebanese Army [words indistinct]?

[Franjiyah] I said 2 or 3 days ago [words indistinct] very serious if I do not say a serious crime. Anywhere else the armies are not deployed against the citizens. They are deployed against the enemy. Regrettably, this army has been used against the citizens. Today you will see the memorandum we are issuing, in which we demand that the Army be purged of all party members, regardless of party affiliation.

[Reporter] I would like to ask in conclusion what your comment is on the recent events in the southern suburb and Beirut?

[Franjiyah] I admire the Amal Movement and its leader Birri. If it were not for this Movement and its leader, all of Beirut would now have been under the control of Israel's agents. We thank God that he has endowed Beirut and Lebanon with this movement and this leader, who did not permit the implementation of the Israeli plan which aimed at destroying Lebanon and Beirut. [end recording]

Damascus Carries 'Text' of NSF 10 Feb Statement

JN102104 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1927 GMT 10 Feb 84

["Text" of statement issued by the Lebanese National Salvatinon Front following its 9-10 February 1984 meetings in Damascus; read by former Prime Minister Rashid Karami in the weekly "Spotlight on Events" program — video recorded]

[Text] During its meetings on 9 and 10 February, the National Salvation Front reviewed the political and security developments in the domestic and external arenas, especially the military attack launched by the regime. An agent partisan faction has imposed its wish on that regime and steered it in accordance with its own interests, which are linked to the enemy. This has taken place despite our repeated warnings, especially in our last statement issued at the end of the Zgharta meeting.

All that has resulted is a chain reaction, foremost of these being what transpired in Beirut and the southern suburb. The results were reflected on the military establishment itself. The NSF had warned against this, because it believed that involving the Army in the internal dispute conflicts with its interest and jeopardizes the country's higher interests.

The Front also studied the various local, regional, and international moves surrounding the Lebanese crisis. It particularly condemned the U.S. position, which is hostile to the basic interests of the Lebanese people. The United States claims that the national struggle, which our people are carrying out with bravery and sacrifice for the sake of sovereignty, freedom, and democracy, is terrorism. Yet, it is the United States which is exercising the most hideous methods of killing and terrorism against our kinfolk and people represented by the savage shelling from the warships of its fleet deployed in our territorial waters.

Out of its concern to liberate the homeland and free it from the tyranny of the single agent party, which is linked to Israel and guided by Washington, and which has deviated from Lebanon's national axioms and basic principles, the NSF reaffirms the need to keep the Army outside the internal conflict, purge its ranks of enemy agents, and cut off its American links through the formation of a higher committee of functionaries to supervise its rebuilding in accordance with a defense policy and defense law clear in their features and national and pan-Arab trends. The NSF affirms its rejection of the legislative decrees, which constitute a violation of the Constitution, existing laws, and general principles. The NSF also affirms the need to cancel all partisan appointments.

And, in accordance with our national responsibility to our people, the NSF affirms the need to achieve a cease-fire and shield defenseless people from barbaric shelling. It holds the other side responsible for everything that has happened and is happening in this respect, especially what occurred in the southern suburb which was most revolting.

In this respect, the NSF praised the statement issued by the leader of the Amal Movement on not shelling Zahlah. The Front pointed out that the enemy could exploit the shelling of that town. Furthermore, it is essential to preserve Zahlah, the noble city of Lebanese history. We pledge to stop any aggression against Zahlah and other cities.

Finally, the NSF pledges to the Lebanese people that it will continue the struggle to liberate them. It expresses its pride in the masses of Beirut, the southern suburb, the mountain, and all nationalist areas, especially the heroic resistance in the south. It also expresses its pride in the Amal Movement and its leader Nabih Birri and all nationalist forces which took part in the Beirut battle so that city would become an example for free and respectable democratic coexistence.

Rashid as-Sulh Demands U.S. Marines Replacement

NC102001 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Former Prime Minister Rashid as-Sulh made a statement to our reporter, affirming that the recent developments in the southern suburb and mountain were very painful. He added that the delegation of former prime ministers and ministers which visited Damascus is now studying Walid Junblatt's demand for the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil. Here is a recording of Prime Minister as-Sulh's statement:

[Begin recording] [As-Sulh] The recent developments in the southern suburb were painful. We and some brothers visited the suburb and observed the damage and losses sustained and the results of the indiscriminate shelling on peaceful quarters, particularly the residential areas there.

[Reporter] How do you view the direct U.S. interference in Lebanese events?

[As-Sulh] We are against this interference because the U.S. forces were brought to Lebanon to separate the Lebanese and Israelis. However, they have become a party to the shelling of the Lebanese areas and are interfering in its affairs. We have demanded that they be replaced by neutral UN forces.

[Reporter] What is your opinion of Walid Junblatt's declaration that Amin al-Jumayyil must resign?

[As-Sulh] We have acquainted ourselves with this declaration and are studying it with our colleagues and brothers, members of the grouping [Salvation Front]. We will resume its study upon returning to Lebanon, God willing.

[Reporter] Finally, what is your comment on the involvement of the Lebanese Army in internal conflicts?

[As-Sulh] It is my opinion that the Army must be kept away from internal conflicts; this institution must assume neutrality so its only objective will be to fight the Israeli enemy. [end recording]

Junblatt on U.S. Withdrawal, Al-Jumayyil

GF101557 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 9 Feb 84 pp 1, 33

[Dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, Walid Junblatt said he has no objection to granting guarantees that ensure secure borders with Israel, such as stationing security forces from the United Nations there and preventing so-called terrorist acts. Junblatt added that the 17 May accord collapsed for objective reasons and that there will be no issues for discussion from now on. He added: We don't care if President al-Jumayyil announces the annulment of the accord because internal, Arab, and international conditions imposed the collapse of that accord. What remains is to translate this collapse into another concept that ensures — as before — the security of its northern borders through a truce agreement and to give the United Nations a larger role in southern Lebanon. We will not accept cooperation or dialogue with Al-Jumayyil even if this accord collapses.

Junblatt also warned some of the officers responsible for the massacres in the [southern] district and mountain of involving themselves in a plan for a coup d'etat because we will not be deceived by this style and adventure. [sentence as published]

Junblatt termed the Reagan decision to withdraw the Marines to the warships as being a sagacious decision designed to avert casualties among the Marines. Yet, he pointed out: It is a grave matter to have the U.S. warships strafe our cities and villages. We ask why Reagan why he allows them to do do?

Commenting on the sudden change in U.S. policy, Junblatt said the Americans began to face facts and the matters have become crystal clear because the Multinational Force no longer aids in attaining peace since it is involved in the war and supports a dictator against an entire people. That's why it is better for this force to depart and take Amin al-Jumayyil with it.

Answering a question as to whether he believes the Reagan decision implied an abandonment of Al-Jumayyil and withdrawing support for him and his supporters, Junblatt said: This is the apt time for the Americans to reassess the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East. Al-Jumayyil will not be the ideal guard for U.S. interests in Lebanon. He added: There are now new facts; namely, that the Lebanese Army is divided or even disintegrated. So why does Reagan support this divided and finished Army? He ought to take these facts into consideration. Al-Jumayyil has fizzled out. Junblatt continued that the Reagan decision represents the fiasco of U.S. policy because the Americans don't learn and the Lebanese people are the winners in the end. He pointed out: Washington has to converse with us politically instead of using the language of shelling. He stressed that the war will continue until Al-Jumayyil realizes he is a losing U.S. dummy and that it is better for him to commit suicide before he dies through other means.

Junblatt continued: Al-Jumayyil is a war criminal. He will be tried and killed because he doesn't belong to us. The Lebanese people will wreck revenge on him in a horrible way because he is responsible for numerous massacres, such as those of Sabra, Shatila, and the mountain in addition to the [assassination of] Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din. We will not forgive him for these crimes.

Answering a question on whether he was sure that Al-Jumayyil will be killed, Junblatt said: He will be killed and we will see to that. He added: My men are in a state of self-defense. The U.S. policy is stupid. We only want to attain victory through negotiations and dialogue with the Americans, not through shelling or guns. We have nothing against them. They have to understand the matter better and comprehend that the Lebanese are not Amin al-Jumayyil, that Syria is a basic and effective side in the direction of attaining peace, and that the Palestinians have rights that should not be forgotten. Junblatt stressed that he and the other members of the National Salvation Front will not back any government that includes Al-Jumayyil. He pointed out that yesterday he apprised U.S. Ambassador in Damascus Robert Paganelli, via telephone, that the nationalist powers and Syria will not remain silent regarding this issue. He warned against the continuation of this escalatory situation. Junblatt said he expects further battles and the embroilment of numerous sides in them.

Druze Statement Condemns U.S. Shelling

NC100921 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Permanent Bureau of the Druze establishments has met and issued the following statement:

The policy of President Reagan and his aides is characterized by prevarication. It has become clear that the task of the Marines deviates from that of the Multinational Forces, lying instead in supporting a fanatical sectarian and partisan group that hides behind the sign of the fascist Phalange Party, whose aim is to dominate the government and all Lebanese groups, use treasury funds to finance its military and security apparatuses, and become rich at the expense of the citizens.

The prevarication once again became clear when the Reagan administration announced its decision to withdraw the Marines to ships; before the citizens heard of this decision, shells poured down on their villages as savagery appeared in its ugliest form. The shelling continued for many hours and shells weighing 1,200 kg each were used. As a result, several innocent victims fell and houses in many villages and towns were destroyed. All this occurred in addition to the shelling by the ruling family's army. It is noteworthy that President Reagan, who ordered the shelling on civilians, has gone to celebrate his birthday.

While we place these events before public opinion, we urge newsmen and television reporters to verify the magnitude of the destruction which the U.S. Fleet has wrought on the villages and towns, and to disseminate to the world the achievements of President Reagan's administration in protecting human rights. The time has come for the U.S. people to open their eyes to the policy of their administration and for the U.S. mothers to become aware of the crimes that the Reagan administration is committing with the hands of their sons, which are covered with blood.

Former Minister Hamadah Holds News Conference

NC121402 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] In Beirut, [former Minister] Marawan Hamadah held a news conference at 1100 today at the residence of Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, during which he briefed foreign correspondents on the recent developments and current political contacts aimed at hammering out a program for the coming phase. Hamadah said the patriotic forces have altered the criteria [ma'ayir as-sultah] for government. The government has abused its powers ever since Al-Jumayyil was installed, by constantly boosting the factional and Phalangist aspects of the state. Therefore, Al-Jumayyil should come to terms with the new status quo; namely, that the balance of power has changed. He said: We have come out on top as a result of the battles in the mountain, suburb, and Beirut. Al-Jumayyil should understand that we will not tolerate the imposition of a minority's dictatorship on the Muslim factions. There is an urgent need to establish a fair system.

Monte Carlo Interviews Junblatt on Developments

JN101833 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1736 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Interview with PSP leader Walid Junblatt by Radio Monte Carlo correspondents Louis Faris and Antoine Abu Samra in the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Louis Faris] Mr Walid Junblatt, a final statement was issued today on the National Salvation Front [NSF] Leadership

Council's meetings. We noted that the statement did not contain any demand for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation, yet as you have stated previously, this is a basic demand as far as you are concerned. We also noted that Syria has thus far not sponsored your demand. Does this mean some difference in viewpoints exist between you and [former] President Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Karami and also between you and Syria?

[Walid Junblatt] When we ask Amin al-Jumayyil to renounce his partisan policy and legislative decrees and try the political officials — in other words, to try himself — and the military officials who committed the massacres in the southern suburb and the mountain, especially the Kfar Matta massacres; when we ask Amin al-Jumayyil to renounce his foreign policy, which was linked in a close alliance to Israel and the United States; when we ask him to return to the Arab world, especially the distinguished relationship with Syria; and when we call for a progressive democratic regime whose policy will be contrary to the course adopted by the Phalange Party's;this means to me, Walid Junblatt, the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil. If I were in his place at Ba'abda Palace, I would rather commit suicide than go back on this policy.

Regarding Syria, we cannot but say that our alliance with it is strong. But Syria has greater Arab and international considerations than Lebanon. The Syrian leadership listens to our opinion regarding the Lebanese issue and studies this opinion. It then gives us an answer at the appropriate time on all the Lebanese, Arab, and international developments.

[Antoine Abu Samra] Mr Walid Junblatt, when you demand Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation, does this mean you have a replacement? If the replacement exists, then who is he? Frankly, who do you nominate as president of the Republic in case Amin al-Jumayyil resigns?

[Junblatt] When I demand the resignation of Amin al-Jumayyil, I say frankly that this demand is not directed against the Christians, because I know what the demand for the resignation of the president means. This demand is directed at a partisan president, who has violated a known national convention or pledge. There are Christians who are impartial and uncommitted. There are persons like Raymond Iddih, Sulayman Franjiyah, and others who understand the Lebanese situation outside the temporary reality or circumstances, which brought the Phalangists to power through Israeli spearheads and U.S. aid. This is what I wanted to clarify. This is my message to all Christians in Lebanon.

[Abu Samra] Regarding your nominee for the presidency, should he be from a specific community, or are there no conditions?

[Junblatt] The party has set a maximum demand calling for the cancellation of political factionalism in Lebanon. We hope that we will be able to achieve this demand so as to remove these factional discriminations and allow every Lebanese to feel he is a first-class citizen. I don't know if this is possible today, but this will remain a basic demand of our party, the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP].

[Abu Samra] Frankly Mr Junblatt, are you a candidate for the presidency; perhaps not today but maybe in the future?

[Junblatt] Everything is possible in view of our call for the end to political factionalism in government posts. However, in order not to scare or disappoint any Lebanese Christians — and by these I mean the Maronites, Catholics, Armenians, Orthodox and others — I say I will back the nomination of a Christian for the presidency provided this takes place through a new progressive political system which gives everyone his rights and gives the other communities the right to a respectable life and their legitimate rights following the political, demographic, and economic changes that have occurred.

[Abu Samra] In your answer to a question from my colleague Louis Faris earlier in this interview, you said no differences exist within the NSF. But in an interview with our radio yesterday, Rashid Karami described your position as very negative.

[Junblatt] I do not believe that Rashid Karami has adopted a stand different from mine. Today, Franjiyah, Karami, and I adopted a clear stand regarding the Phalange Party's political line, foreign connections, and internal policy, and asked that the party repudiate all of this. Our position is clear and unified.

[Abu Samra] Mr Walid Junblatt, I would like to pose a final question: What is your opinion on the events in West Beirut? You said a few days ago that you would return to the Lebanese capital very soon.

[Junblatt] Frankly, I believe Beirut has been liberated from Phalangist hegemony and the tyranny which the Phalangist authority enforced on West Beirut through known organs, including, unfortunately, the Army. Fighting continues along the contact lines. We would like to reach a solution which would end the fighting and indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas. If the authority does not respond, then we will have no choice but to continue to fight. West Beirut has been liberated. The slogan now is to achieve internal security through coordination, or rather through the guidance of the parties — the PSP and Amal Movement. We will not allow West Beirut to return to the previous chaos and Phalangist tyranny in the days that preceded its liberation.

[Abu Samra] Then now that you are satisfied with the situation in West Beirut, or rather the western areas of Beirut because I prefer to use the second expression when will you return to Beirut?

[Junblatt] I will return soon. As I said earlier, I hope the fighting will stop and the Phalangist authority will not attempt to impose a supply blockade or any other blockade on West Beirut, because this would have serious consequences. God willing, I will return soon to my house in West Beirut. I left because the Phalangist authority tried to kill me there.

[Abu Samra] Mr Junblatt, your last remark prompts me to ask another question: Is the supply and contact line between the mountain, the southern suburb, and West Beirut cut off?

[Junblatt] Because you spoke of the blockade of Beirut, we believe the Army — or that part still associated with the Phalangist authority — and the Phalangist militias will try to impose a supply blockade on Beirut. This is a serious matter and we warn of its consequences. Therefore, it is better that the Phalangist authority not behave in this manner before it becomes too late.

[Abu Samra] Thank you Mr Walid Junblatt.

Muslim Leaders Discuss West Beirut Situation

NC111643 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A meeting was held at Mufti Hasan Khalid's house today to discuss the situation in West Beirut. Mufti Hasan Khalid; Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din; Ja'farite Mufti 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan; Ibrahim Qulaylat; Kamal Shatila; Anwar al-Fatayri; and Hisham Nasir ad-Din attended. [Former] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss joined the conferees following a short meeting with Mufti Khalid.

It has been reported that Al-Huss and Qulaylat held a tete-a-tete after the meeting, during which they discussed the need to withdraw gunmen from the streets and preclude the reopening of the various parties' paramilitary centers.

Mufti Khalid had met earlier with Minister Baha' ad-Din al-Bisat and a delegation of the Permanent Office of the Druze establishments. He was also contacted by [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam.

Medical Supplies, Food Shortage in West Beirut

NC121113 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Because of the siege imposed on West Beirut, the hospitals have a great shortage of medical supplies, especially serum and plasma. It is feared that the crisis will worsen if the siege continues to prevent the arrival of fuel. The inhabitants of the western area [of Beirut] have also begun suffering from a food shortage and high vegetable prices as a result of the siege. It is worth noting that the Phalangist militias yesterday prevented a convoy carrying flour from entering West Beirut.

Birri Rules Out Dialogue With Al-Jumayyil

NC101822 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] In a press statement today [Amal Movement leader] Nabih Birri said his political initiative is based on ending the fighting in the country and turning the conflict into a political battle after the Constitution has been amended and the president's term reduced to 2 years. Birri added: There can be no dialogue with the head of the regime because of what has happened in the [southern] suburb, Beirut, and the mountain. Those occurrences are real crimes which noone can tolerate. On the reopening of the airport, the Amal leader said the 6th Brigade will be stationed near it for that purpose. On his anticipation of a possible military strike by the U.S. Forces, Birri said: The United States always resorts to the language of the gun and its history is (?proof) of this.

Amal Official Escapes Assassination Attempt

NC121925 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that retired Colonel 'Akif Haydar, chairman of the Amal Movement's Political Council, escaped an assassination attempt tonight on Al-Corniche-al-Mazra'ah Road.

Al-Hakim Urges Military To Disobey Army Orders

NC101544 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1455 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Brigadier General Ibrahim Shahin, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade in Al-Biqa', visited Hammana Barracks at noon today. He met with Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim, who disobeyed the orders of the tendentious [army] command. He invited Shahin and some nationalist officers to lunch. After the luncheon, Maj Gen al-Hakim delivered the following speech:

[Begin recording] In rejection of the unusual acts of killing and suppression of the innocent citizens which have taken and continue totake place in the mountain area, southern suburb, and Beirut, as mentioned in my 2 February 1984 statement, I demand that all military personnel, wherever they may be, search his conscience, and perform his national duty in resisting the filthy plot being concocted against the unity of the people and homeland.

It pains us to observe the Americans' artillery attempting to achieve what we refused to yield before. We did not expect this from the America of civilization and human rights. Is it logical in the U.S. view that the unification of Lebanon should be achieved through the destruction of Beirut, its suburb, and mountain? Do the American people accept that Beirut and villages and cities should be destroyed over the heads of the children, women, and old men in them? Do the American people accept the extermination of a people and homeland to implement a specific policy?

Why do the battleships bombard our cities and villages? This is a question which we, and every civilized person, pose. Why does America try to antagonize us, we who sent some of our officers and soldiers to follow up courses there, and about whom we in Lebanon formed our own impression?

Therefore, after returning to the sound national stand; upon the dictates of our conscience and to spare the shedding of innocent persons' blood; and in seeking the realization of one united Lebanon and one national army, I declare:

1. I believe that we must remain in the barracks and disobey the orders to implement the plot.

2. I assert that such presence is legitimate and is not a sign of partition or fragmentation. We all support the unity of the Army so that it may become the means of this country's salvation after ridding it of interference, hegemony, and domination.

3. I appeal to the U.S. Marines and the conscience of the

American people to halt the shelling of our people with the fire of their fleet so that we may remain above the conflicts and so that we are not compelled to adopt certain negative stands toward the sources of shelling, knowing that we have enough resources to retaliate with various means to safeguard the lives of our children and old men, and to preserve our dignity. [end recording]

University Protests Marines Stationing on Campus

NC111749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A responsible source at the American University of Beirut has said several U.S. Marines entered the university campus and took up positions. The University's administration protested and insisted that the Marines not be allowed to enter the campus. It immediately contacted the appropriate U.S. authorities, who explained that the stationing of the Marines is a temporary measure designed to observe the U.S. nationals' evacuation and will not exceed the time set for the evacuation operation.

U.S. Citizen Slightly Injured During Evacuation

NC111237 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1233 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] At 1000, during the helicopter airlift evacuation of U.S. civilians via 'Ayn al-Muraysah, three rockets and volleys of gunfire were directed at the area, slightly injuring a U.S. woman.

Several Hundred Italian Nationals Leave Beirut

NC111837 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] The process of evacuating 500 Italian nationals has begun. They will leave by the Italian ship *Caorle* for Cyprus and from there proceed to Italy.

Gunmen Steal German Embassy Documents

NC111846 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Gunmen entered the (Huraysh) police post and German Embassy [not further specified]. They stole documents from the embassy and carried out subversive actions [words idistinct].

French Embassy Opens Services Office in Juniyah

NC101616 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1600 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The French Embassy issued a statement today saying it has opened a special office for administrative and consular services at the French Cultural Center in Juniyah. The statement says the embassy in continuing its normal activities in western Beirut.

Sons of Kuwaiti Embassy Official Kidnapped

NC121254 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Four gunmen at noon today kidnapped the two sons of the public affairs officer at the Kuwaiti Embassy in Beirut, after storming the building where he lives on Madame Curie Street in West Beirut.

Rescued, Amal Detains Abductors

NC121912 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following:

The Amal Movement announced this evening that it has detained the persons accused of kidnapping the two Kuwaiti students in Beirut, and that the students have returned to their family. The two students were kidnapped yesterday in Beirut, the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry announced today.

Kuwaiti Envoy Thanks Birri

NC122025 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] A Kuwaiti diplomat has contacted Nabih Birri and expressed thanks for Birri's help in securing the release of his two kidnapped sons.

French Force To Replace Army in Ra's An-Nab'

NC111509 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Statement issued by the Military Revolutionary Committee of the Al-Murabitun Forces on 11 February]

[Text] Following directives issued by Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic; Shaykh Muhammad Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council; Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, Ja'farite mufti; and former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, and in our commitment to the interest and security of our citizens in the Ra's an-Nab area [in Beirut], political and spiritual contacts were made to foil pretexts of some fascist cliques in the Army and Phalangist militia for continuing their sniping operations along the contact line with the aim of preventing food, medical supplies, and other daily needs from reaching our people in this area and thus to sever the area's link with West Beirut. In light of these contacts, the Al-Murabitun forces' military official met at the Movement's headquarters in Qasr as-Sanawbar-al-Barbir with the commander of the French military contingent in the presence of an Al-Murabitun committee official. It has been agreed to withdraw the Army force present on this axis, specifically from behind the Al-'Ajji building, and to deply a French force in its place. The Al-Murabitun Force will remain at its position.

French Forces Open Beirut Crossing Road

LD121418 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] In Lebanon, Museum Road, the demarcation line between the east and west sections of Beirut, reopened about an hour ago. This is a result of the intervention by troops of the French contingent. Since yesterday, they have taken up positions on both sides of the avenue that leads to this road. At the French Embassy, it has been explained that this is a mission of good offices. At present, the rate of passage of vehicles is nevertheless still very slow because Army road blocks have been multiplying on both sides of this new demarcation line.

Beirut Shops Reopen; Traffic Returns to Normal

NC131225 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Relative quiet prevailed on most of the axes. This quiet, together with the reopening of Museum Road, spread tranquillity among the citizens. There were energetic activities in Beirut today. Most shops, and some banks and establishments reopened. Traffic resumed on most streets, and travel between the two parts of the capital was heavy. This travel was not confined to trucks carrying supplies, but traffic in general was almost normal.

VOL Reports Arrival of Palestinians in Beirut

NC121002 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, 250 As-Sa'iqah Palestinian gunmen, led by Muhammad Daghman, infiltrated into the southern suburb last night along the Ash-Shuwayfat Road. The Palestinians are equipped with personal weapons and maps of arms caches in the Burj al-Barajinah camp containing rocket launchers which they will use against the Lebanese Army.

Iranians Reportedly Infiltrate Beirut Suburb

NC121310 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1245 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] According to information available to RFL, a number of Iranian men of religion [rijal ad-din] have infiltrated into Beirut's southern suburb. They made a stopover in Damascus while on their way from Tehran to Al-Biqa' on instructions from Imam Khomeyni. The Iranians have begun contacts with Shi'ite clergymen, Hezbollah Party officials, the Musawite group, and the Amal Movement.

Gunmen Break Into Army Commander's House

NC121933 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Junblattist gunmen tonight broke into the house of Lieutenant Colonel Lutfi Jabir, commander of the 6th Brigade in Verdun in Beirut. On not finding him there they beat his son and opened fire inside the house before destroying its contents.

Israeli Convoy Arrives in Ad-Damur

NC100929 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Israeli convoy comprising 16 vehicles that crossed the Al-Awwali Bridge this morning, arrived at Ad-Damur Bridge [located approximately eight miles south of Beirut airport]. No explanation has been given yet for this move.

Resistance Men Attack Israeli Forces in South

NC121400 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese nationalist resistance today attacked an Israeli position in the Al-'Addusiyah area south of Az-Zahrani with rockets and machine guns. Details of the operation are not yet known due to the security cordon the occupation forces imposed around the scene of the incident.

Three Day Official Mourning Period for Andropov

NC101842 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister's office has issued the following communique:

In mourning the death of Yuriy Andrpov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, it has been decided to declare a 3-day official mourning period and to fly the flags at halfmast on all state offices, establishments, and municipalities as of today.

In implementation of the prime minister's communique, Lebanon's radio will stop broadcasting songs and scheduled programs, and play classical music instead.

Al-Jumayyil Offers Condolences on Andropov Death

NC110559 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil last night contacted Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov and conveyed to him condolences in the name of the Lebanese Government and people over the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov. President al-Jumayyil said he believes the departure of President Andropov at this particular phase will have a great effect on the course of world events President al-Jumayyil sent a cable to the Soviet leadership extending condolences on the death of the Soviet leader.

Military Statement Issued on Israeli Raids

JN101455 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

Within the framework of coordinating the aggressive, premeditated joint U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist design against the Lebanese people and in line with the barbaric artillery shelling of the military warships yesterday and last night against the populated residential areas and civilian concentrations, the Israeli warplanes at 1512 at noon [as heard] today launched a 30-minute long barbaric and bestial shelling on Bhamdun and Al-Mansuriyah. As a result of the shelling, several houses were destroyed and many civilians were wounded.

Immediately following the Israeli air raids, the Lebanese army and Phalangist militias' artillery began firing on the same areas in order to inflict the largest possible casualties among the civilian teams that rushed to rescue the wounded. Our air defenses present near the strafed areas confronted the Israeli warplanes, prevented them from continuing their mission, and forced them to flea. There were no casualties among our forces.

U.S. Planes Overfly Syrian Positions 11 Feb

JN111857 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1850 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

At exactly 1530 this evening, 11 February 1984, three squadrons of U.S. F-14 reconnaissance planes flew over some areas in which our forces are stationed in the Al-Matn — Dhahr al-Baydar area [of Lebanon]. Our air defenses confronted the planes, and forced them to return toward the sea.

Syria Reportedly Agrees to UN Forces in Lebanon

JN111910 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Intensive political and diplomatic activity is underway in order to reeach a settlement in Lebanon. This activity is taking place on various levels. At the United Nations, contacts continue in an effort to replace the Multinational Force with an international force. One may refer in this regard to a statement Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas has made to an Austrian magazine saying that Syria agrees to the stationing of UN forces in Lebanon provided that the Israeli forces are withdrawn from the Lebanese territory and the 17 May agreement with Israel is abrogated by the Lebanese government.

Al-Asad Condolence Cable on Andropov Death

JN101717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a cable to the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers expressing condolences on the death of the USSR President Yuriy Andropov. Here is the text of the cable:

We received with deep sorrow and regret the news about the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. We have known Comrade Andropov, through our close relations and meetings and through his personal march, as a sincere struggler for peace and an enthusiastic supporter of peoples' national liberation movements. We have also known him as a prominent and respected statesman who has actively contributed to strengthening the cooperation and friendship between the USSR and Syria in various fields. Furthermore, we have known him as a firm struggler for socialism and the liberation and progress of peoples. He devoted his life and great capabilities and efforts to serving his homeland, people, the principles of the Great October Revolution, and the alliance of peoples against imperialism, racism, and aggression.

With the death of Comrade Andropov, we lose a great and sincere friend of Syria and the Arabs, a friend who always stood on the side of their just cause and supported their legitimate struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and aggression. He contributed greatly to developing the USSR-Arab relations and supporting Arab efforts for self-defense, confronting aggression, liberating the occupied Arab land, and regaining the usurped Arab rights.

In the name of the Syrian people, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Command, the National Progressive Front Central Command, the Syrian Government, and in my own name I extend my heartfelt condolences to you and the friendly Soviet people. I am confident that the cooperation and friendship between Syria and the USSR, which Comrade Andropov supported, will develop and strengthen in the future in the interest of the two countries and peoples and the common struggle in order to curb the proponents of war, deter the aggressors, achieve a just peace, and ensure the peoples' rights toward progress, security, and peace. Official mourning has been declared in Syria and the flags on government buildings will be lowered for 7 days on the occasion of the Soviet President Yuriy Andropov's death.

Al-Asad Visits USSR Embassy

JN111517 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, 11 Feb (SANA) — At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad visited the Soviet Embassy in Damascus to extend his condolences on the death of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The president was received at the embassy gate by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Yukhin and the embassy staff. The president wrote the following statement in the book of condolences at the embassy:

With Comrade Andropov's death, I have lost a great friend who made immense contributions toward building relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. I knew Comrade Andropov well. He was firm and true in his words. He was a staunch struggler against imperialism, and for the sake of peace and socialism. I offer my heartfelt condolences to the Soviet people and leadership, and to the family of the deceased.

The president wrote that despite the warm, friendly relations between our two countries in various fields, we in Syria and the USSR, will work to further promote these relations in the various fields in order to strengthen our joint struggle against Zionism, imperialism, and colonialism and to build peace and socialism. The president asked the Soviet ambassador to convey his condolences to the Soviet leadership and people on the death of Comrade Andropov, who actively and strongly contributed toward developing the relations and friendship between the two countries. He affirmed the desire to continue to promote and develop these relations. The Soviet ambassador and the embassy staff saw the president off as he left the embassy.

Al-Ahmar Offers Condolences

JN111545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, visited the Soviet Embassy in Damascus this morning. He was accompanied by a number of members of the party's national command. Comrade al-Ahmar presented condolences on behalf of the party's national command on the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Comrade al-Ahmar wrote a statement in the condolences book on behalf of the party's national command which reads:

We express the deepest grief and sorrow on the death of Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, In losing Comrade Andropov, the peoples of the Soviet Union, our country, and humanity have lost a great struggler and leader who dedicated his life to the service of his people and country, to peace, to building socialism, and to supporting people's liberation movements.

The words Comrade Hafiz al-Asad expressed in his condolence telegram on the death of the great leader show Comrade Andropov's traits and his role in developing the friendly relations between our two parties and peoples. On this occasion, we stress that these relations, based on ties of joint struggle, will develop more in the future in ways that will serve our two parties' struggle in building socialism, peace, and progress for the people of the world. comrade Andropov, a great leader of a great people, will live in the hearts of all progressive people. His glorious deeds will remain an example to be followed on the road of joint struggle toward attaining the peoples aspirations for progress; building socialism; achieving peace; and underming the pillars of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

Monte Carlo Reports Ash-Shar' Press Conference

JN121328 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] At a press conference attended by a large number of Arab and foreign correspondents, Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs and acting information minister, has stated that while Syria exercises self-restraint toward the destructive shelling by the *New Jersey* and the 6th Fleet of Lebanese nationalist positions and Lebanese civilians, this self-restraint has limits and cannot last forever.

Minister ash-Shar' added that the shelling carried out by the *New Jersey* has nothing to justify it under any international norms and that even the justification of self-defense claimed by the United States is a pretext which cannot stand alone.

Ash-Shar' declined to either specify where Syria's self-restraint will end or the nature of Syria's reply in view of the many considerations, including the deterioration of relations between Syria and the United States and the extent and impact of the shelling as well as when the Army and command in Syria will decide that a reply is necessary.

When asked about whether the U.S. shelling has inflicted any losses among the Syrian forces, he replied in the negative.However, he expressed deep regret over the fact that this shelling has killed and wounded a large number of Lebanese civilians in addition to destroying civilian property. Ash-Shar' also said that when President Hafiz al-Asad received the U.S. ambassador in Damascus last Wednesday, at the time of the exchange of letters between Presidents Reagan and Al-Asad, the Syrian president used harsh words concerning the shelling of Lebanese civilians by the *New Jersey*.

As for the Syrian-U.S. dialogue, Ash-Shar' said that though this dialogue continues, it has achieved no progress. He added that a under no circumstances or conditions can Syria accept the continuation of the presence of the Multinational Forces in Lebanon as these forces have deviated from their basic task and have become a party to the dispute. As for replacing the Multinational Forces with international forces, Minister ash-Shar' said that this matter is still being discussed.

Ash-Shar' said that although President Andropov's death is painful as the USSR leader was a great supporter of Arab causes, it will not have any effect on the well-known USSR stand toward the Arab causes or on relations between Damascus and Moscow. Ash-Shar' added that Syria has no doubts about this.

President al-Asad will not participate in Andropov's funeral but has entrusted a ranking Syrian delegation to participate. This delegation is composed of 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general; Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces and defense minister. With respect to Lebanon, Ash-Shar' said that Syrian is committed to support the nationlist forces. Syria is not concerned with Lebanese domestic affairs such as the issue of the president of the republic's resignation or the formation of a government. Ash-Shar' added that Syria's only concern is to maintain Lebanon united and independent, and to safeguard its Arab identity and have it remain committed to its Arab obligations. He said that dialogue between Damascus and Ba'abda is continuing.

Ash-Shar' said that the situation in Lebanon is complicated, that the Lebanese regime and the Phalangist Party had not abided by what was agreed in the first Geneva conference and had committed a series of grave mistakes, the most prominent being that of their attempt to resort to a military settlement whether in the mountain or in the suburb and the attempt to expel the inhabitants of the southern suburb. The Syrian minister stressed that any attempt to settle the issue through military means will inevitably be doomed. He added that the nationalist forces in Lebanon, which constitute a majority, reject the idea of partitioning and that the possibility of partitioning at present has become more complex than was the the case in the past.

Ash-Shar' said that the Syrian forces in Lebanon are not under any pressure because they are in a friendly atmosphere. However this does not apply to any other military force in Lebanon and the Israelis and the multinational forces must withdraw without any preconditions.

Delegation To Andropov Funeral

JN121902 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, 12 Feb (SANA) — SANA has learned that a party and government delegation will represent Syria in President Yuriy Andropov's funeral. This delegation is made up of Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; and General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces and defense minister.

Reagan, Al-Asad Message Exchange 'Affirmed'

JN101244 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1216 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] It must be pointed out that a U.S. source in Damascus affirmed to us today that President Reagan exchanged messages with President al-Asad the day before yesterday. President al-Asad received the U.S. ambassador in Damascus at the latter's request. An anonymous U.S. source had earlier claimed that this exchange of messages did not take place. This prompted the Syrian republic's official press spokesman to wonder whther there are people in the U.S. Administration who can speak to the heads of other states in President Reagan's name without the knowledge of the U.S. President and his aides.

PDRY President Arrives; Makes Statement

JN121940 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a short working visit to Syria. He is accompanied by an official delegation consisting of: Salih Munsir as-Sayli, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the State Security Committee; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, foreign minister; and Sulayman Nasir Muhammad, member of the YSP Central Committee. The talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad began at 1800 this evening. The president and his guest continued their talks during a working dinner, which was attended on the Yemeni side by: Salih Munsir as-Sayli, 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, Sulayman Nasir Muhammad, and the PDRY ambassador to Moscow. They were attended on the Syrian side by: Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs; and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

In a statement to the press upon his arrival, Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: We are very pleased to arrive in Damascus today to renew our contact with our brothers in Syria, headed by Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, to discuss a number of issues of bilateral cooperation between our two fraternal countries. We will also review the current developments in the Arab arena and the means of strengthening the Arab national liberation movement with all its progressive nationalist regimes and groups in order to cope with the challenges and dangers they are facing as a result of the increasing U.S. and Israeli aggressive military activity in the Arab region. We in the PDRY are following with great concern the current events in Lebanon and the U.S.-Zionist threats against steadfast Syria and its struggler people. We would like to reaffirm our complete principled support for Syria, with which we stand in one trench against the common imperialist-Zionist enemy and all capitulationist and conspiratorial plans which aim to obliterate the legitimate rights of our Arab people, impose imperialist and Zionist hegemony over the Arab people's destiny and resources, and isolate our Arab peoples from their loyal friends in the socialist bloc countries, headed by the USSR, which is firmly supporting just Arab issues and giving all forms of assistance and support to our Arab peoples' just struggle for their legitimate rights.

At the same time, we affirm our complete solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO for the sake of their right to return to their homeland, determine their own destiny, and build their independent state. We also support the struggle of the Lebanese people under the leadership of the National Salvation Front and other progressive nationalist forces for the sake of preserving Lebanese national unity, cancelling the 17 May agreement with the Zionist enemy, and pooling all Lebanese national resources for the sake of ending the Israeli-U.S. occupation of Lebanon and removing all manifestations of factional and sectarian hegemony in Lebanon.

Libya's Jallud Arrives; Meets Khaddam 12 Feb

JN121932 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Talks were held at the Foreign Ministry this evening between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The subject of the talks was the current Arab situation. Major Jallud was met at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and Sayyid 'Abd as-Salam, the charge d'affaires at the Libyan Arab Relations Bureau in Damascus, and the staff of the bureau.

Commentaries View Lebanon Situation, U.S. Moves

Limits of Syrian Restraint

JN130852 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] Today's newspapers deal with the Lebanese situation in light of the increasing U.S. interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, the Lebanese nationalist forces's determination to reject Phalangist domination, and the need to cancel the 17 May agreement. The headlines read: Washington affirms Marines' withdrawal is a redeployment and redistribution to serve military interests; Israel proposes to Washington a joint Israeli-U.S. action; and Zionist enemy government meets secretly to discuss Lebanon.

On the possibility of aggression, *AL-BA'TH* writes: Political observers continue to have differing viewpoints on the U.S. decision to withdraw U.S. forces to the sea. While some see the step as the beginning of evacuation, others consider it to be a maneuver paving the way for a large-scale military action, not only in Lebanon but in the entire region. Therefore, there is no middle-of-the-road solution; the United States has two alternatives, which had been spelled out by President Hafiz al-Asad before the U.S. Administration embarked on this move. The United States has either to withdraw from Lebanon and leave the region, or become militarily more involved.

In any case, despite the differing and even contradictory views of the political observers, the actions that followed the U.S. decision make the military alternative more probable. The U.S. President has personally ordered the Marines to shell civilian targets and residential areas, killing dozens of innocent people. This savage shelling, in which planes and warships took part, shows Reagan's penchant for the use of force and indicates that the United States is determined not to abandon its Lebanese allies represented by the Phalangist gangs and the sectarian army, which have been trying to spread their influence and domination over the majority of the Lebanese people. What is more important, this shelling shows that Reagan intends to launch a comprehensive aggression through military action that he has always dreamed of and planned in coordination and consultation with his strategic ally, Israel.

The paper says: A glance at the question of withdrawal toward the sea reminds us of Israel's partial withdrawal from the Lebanese mountain. The pretext of the two withdrawals has been the same — namely, protection of forces. However, the real aim was to perpetuate the joint Zionist-U.S. invasion of Lebanon and consolidate the results of this invasion by the 17 May contract of submission. The aim was to transform Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate or a NATO base from which joint forces of invasion could attack the Arab homeland in order to subjugate it to imperialist domination.

The paper concludes: However, the invaders' calculations have always been full of errors and mistaken notions. The Zionists, who partially withdrew to southern Lebanon, did not escape the attacks of the heroic Lebanese resistance, which is harrassing them day and night and inflicting heavy losses on them. Likewise, the Marines and the Multinational Forces have taken their share of Lebanese blows. The sea will not be able to protect them. Their resorting to terrorism and savage shelling of civilian targets shows their frustration and their preparations for the large-scale aggression. The retaliation for this aggression will be very severe.

Under the headline "Warnings and Confrontation," *TISHRIN* says: Observers of the Lebanese events since the war of the Lebanese mountain are aware that the Lebanese regime would not have resisted the Lebanese nationalist attacks without effective participation of the Zionist enemy forces, the Marines, and the Multinational Forces in fighting alongside the Phalangist militias and army to prevent the nationalist forces from realizing victory. This fact was corroborated by more than one observer of the Lebanese situation. There is a consensus that the continuation of President al-Jumayyil's rule in Ba'abda is due only to the continuing U.S. shelling of the nationalist positions. However, this shelling was not as effective as the Phalangist regimes wanted it to be. This prompted the circles of this regime to express their disappointment over the limited, inefficient Israeli-U.S. support. These circles have also begun talking about the possibility that Al-Jumayyil may cancel the Israeli-Lebanese agreement as a prelude to resuming the national dialogue that began in Geneva.

TISHRIN adds: Hence, the Israeli pressure and U.S. shelling are aimed to preserve the current situation so as to guarantee the implementation of the U.S.-Israeli plot against the region by using Lebanon as a springboard. For this reason, Syria has warned that while it has exercised self-restraint toward the destructive shelling that the *New Jersey* and the other ships of the 6th Fleet are mounting against the Lebanese nationalist positions, this self-restraint has certain limits and cannot go on for ever - hence, Syria's rejection of the existence of the Marines and the multinational forces after they have deviated from their tasks in Lebanon.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: The Zionist pressure and the U.S. blackmail will never succeed in preventing the Lebanese people from affirming their Arabism and the unity of their homeland. Pressure and blackmail will not prevent Syria from supporting the Lebanese people's will.

'Any Available Means' To Be Used

JN111130 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial headlined "The U.S. Escalation in Lebanon Is a Sign of the Enemy's Policy Failure," *ATH-THAWRAH* writes: Those who followed the U.S. steps after the Reagan adminisration's decision to transport the Marines to the U.S. fleet thought for the first time that the U.S. Administration had responded — though late — to the call of logic and to the voices raised inside the United States for the withdrawal of the Marines and the termination of U.S. military involvement in Lebanon. However, Washington officials, as well as the guns of the U.S. warships, were faster in defining the subsequent U.S. step that is based on the escalation of aggression and the perpetration of further massacres against the Lebanese people and their villages and cities. This shelling has proven beyond doubt that the U.S. aims, which Shultz said the United States will not relinquish in Lebanon, are Israel's aims; aims which are designed to destroy Lebanon, kill its people, and terminate its cultural and humanitarian role.

It was not strange to see the Israeli aircraft join the U.S.-Phalangist aggression against the Lebanese people because Washington and Tel aviv want to destroy Lebanon after failing to turn it into an Israeli protectorate and a U.S. base of aggression. The escalation of the U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist aggression reveals the failure of the U.S. Middle East policy, particularly in Lebanon, and underlines the impotence of this policy in understanding the U.S. people's national and vital interests by exposing them to danger. Therefore, this hostile escalation can neither rescue Washington's policy from the bottleneck nor keep the U.S. hostile war machine safe from an appropriate reply.

Syria has declared that the United States has two options: either to withdraw its forces form Lebanon or increase its military involvement with all the crises and woes this involvement would bring. We have the sole option of defending ourselves and our rights, protecting our land against destruction, and repulsing the aggression to which our people and nation are exposed.

The newspaper *TISHRIN* asks: Does the United States still believe that rescuing the staggering regime in Lebanon can be done by the *New Jersey* gun barrels and that rescuing what is left of the collapsing authority can be effected by its fleets? After reviewing the wrong strategy of the U.S. policy in the region, *TISHRIN* says: The Marines and U.S. fleets have become a part and even the root of the Lebanese crisis. One who wants to solve the crisis must begin with the roots. Therefore, the main element of these roots should be pulled out and the symbol of U.S. killing should be driven away from the Lebanese people so that these people will have the freedom to choose their road and settle the issue, especially since the U.S. presence has turned into a tool oppressing the Lebanese people — which these people strongly reject.

If the United States is still secretly considering a military settlement, whether directly or through a premeditated Israeli role, the lessons of the battles waged during the past few days must be sufficient to prove the futility of a military settlement in solving the Lebanese question. The United States will find Syria fully adhering to its declared commitment to support the Lebanese people and their national forces in a manner that will enable them to repulse any aggression in a painful way and deter the aggressors in a manner that will make them stop thinking of settling matters militarily. Confrontation of any aggression by any side whatsoever falls within this framework. Any available means to defend ourselves and our allies in Lebanon will be used in this confrontation. This is enough to make a military settlement impossible, as Syria has emphasized several times. The issue cannot at all be solved by the *New Jersey* gun barrels or the runways of the aircraft carriers.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: The elements of a solution to the Lebanese crisis are clearly and specifically outlined by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the withdrawal of the U.S. and Israeli forces, and the formation of a national government that can achieve the required national balance in this fraternal country. We fully hope that the picture will be clear to the U.S. decisionmaking circles. There can be no solution in Lebanon without these basic pillars — and this is what leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad emphasized to the leaders of the Lebanese National Salvation Front in Lebanon the day before yesterday. You will discover that what Hafiz al-Asad emphasizes is emphasized by facts and events — and this is what has always happened.

'Necessity' of UN Troops

JN121625 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the administration of the United States' President is still trying to achieve its aims in Lebanon, employing in the process methods of tyranny and aggression against the Lebanese people, as well as carrying out barbaric raids on the positions of nationalist Lebanese forces. Despite the fact that this administration has ordered the Marines to withdraw to their ships, the shelling and air raids that are being carried out emphasize beyond doubt that the United States is not willing to give up the methods of military aggression and intervention. Instead, it wants to adapt these methods to different ground factors.

The question we must ask in this situation — in which the United States continues to employ aggressive force against the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces — is why is it that the United States does not want to recognize the truth and accept the new facts that resulted from the break up of the alliance between it and the other sides partaking in the Multinational Force? Some of these sides recognize the necessity of replacing the Multinational force with UN troops. This indicates an indirect recognition that the methods of military campaigns and dispatching troops of invasion and aggression are outdated and their days will never be seen again. It is urgent that matters be put in their proper perspective and that international legitimacy, represented by the UN Charter and principles, be observed.

The United States tried to ignore the wishes of the world and to sidestep UN resolutions by establishing the Multinational Force and deploying it on Lebanese soil. This attempt has met with miserable failure because the United States insists on carrying out its aggressive aims under cover of its allies in this force. The U.S. forces began acting as if they were a side in the conflict between the army and militias of the Phalangists on the one hand, and the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces on the other. This aggressive stand resulted in the death and injury of hundreds and the destruction of scores of houses.

The Lebanese regime did not hesitate to give legitimacy to the aggressors, to bless their deeds, and to prepare conditions for escalating these actions. This stand by the regime stems from its absolute enmity to most of the people and to their legitimate right to live on the basis of justice and equality among all the citizens.

Even though the U.S. Administration and its agents in the Lebanese regime have tried to change the facts in Lebanon by combining their joint interests and ambitions, events have proven the failure of this attempt because the Lebanese people have been, and will remain, their own masters and the ones to decide their destiny and future, whatever methods of tyranny and aggression the U.S. imperialists and their agents in the regime employ to subjugate this people. They must submit to the facts and to the new factors that have been introduced by the conflict in the Lebanese arena; for they can no longer implement their plans and aggressive objectives, they can only reconsider their stand on the basis of recognition of the right of the Lebanese people to determine their future and destiny. The first thing the United States must do is to make the withdrawal of its forces to the sea a prelude to withdrawing its fleet from Lebanese waters, and to leave the affairs of Lebanon to the Lebanese.

The Lebanese regime has to recognize that U.S. support will not help it, and that the way to achieve security, stability, and calm in Lebanon is through the fulfillment of nationalist demands, the first of which is achieving sovereignty and independence for the country and abandoning the methods of tyranny, force, and violence in dealing with the citizens. These are the bases of an objective solution to the problems of Lebanon, if there is a real will to reach this solution, avoid more destruction, and stop the mill of violence that denies the people of Lebanon the right of a free and dignified life.

Have the U.S. imperialists and their agents in the Lebanese regime realized the necessity of recognizing these facts, or will they continue swimming against the current, thus pushing Lebanon toward the abyss?

U.S. Pullout Urged

JN111716 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the United States wants to achieve its objectives of aggression by various means, tools, and instruments. It refuses to learn from the lessons struggling peoples have taught it. When the United States is forced to back down, it waits for opportunities to try to rearrange matters to suit its aggressive designs, ignoring people's wishes to live with dignity in free countries that are not controlled by the whims of others.

Events have proven that the basis of U.S. policy in Lebanon is in error and only brings disappointment and failure. This is because the United States ignores the facts and realities; instead, it persists in wornout colonial ideas that have been overcome by reality. In Lebanon the United States tries to bring back the policy of hegemony and occupation.

This outdated policy was stopped at the beginning of this century. The United States has not learned from the lessons of Vietnam or from the failure it faced in Iran. Nor did it learn from the lessons it received from the Arab people in Lebanon. It still thinks it can implement its solutions and trends by the policy of guns and warships and by depending on a few factions that are tied to it, adopt its policy, and link their destiny with the destiny of a vicious power that only cares about realizing its own interests.

The United States cannot believe that small people, with their conviction, persistence, and will to struggle, are able to resist the ugliest forms of tyranny and aggression. The United States decided to withdraw its forces from Lebanon after the tide of struggle escalated and after it was proven that the side it bet on is unable to carry out the plans it had drawn up. However, the United States is trying to achieve these plans by other means, not knowing that the strugglers are able to go through all the difficulties, armed with the methods of struggle and determined to defend their homeland and their existence. Their strength comes from the fact that they are defending their existence and that they are standing on the firm ground that is the soil of their homeland.

The United States is making the gravest mistake if it thinks that it can decide the issue in its favor in this way, because the Lebanese people are not alone and their relations with the people of Syria are strong. They have extensive cultural roots that stem from the fact that they are one people, people who have struggled against colonialism of many colors throughout history. Syria categorically and firmly stands with these people. Neither the United States nor those in collaboration with it will be able to impose their solutions on the Lebanese people by shelling, destruction, and aggression.

Solving Lebanon's problems is possible only through discussion among its sons after the U.S. and Zionist aggressors leave their land and leave the freedom of choice to them. This choice will not be in harmony with the treaties attempting to make Lebanon a Zionist protectorate or a satellite of the United States. The continuation of national dialogue will, no doubt, result in establishing a free Arab Lebanon with independent decisions, and one able to develop and progress.

U.S. Opposition to Lebanon Policy Noted

JN111950 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] In the United States, the city of San Francisco has witnessed a massive demonstration in which the demonstrators condemned the aggressive U.S. escalation against Lebanon and its nationalist forces. The demonstrators called for the U.S. forces to withdraw from Lebanon. Opposition inside the U.S. Administration has also continued, rejecting the expansion of the armed U.S. intervention in Lebanese affairs. Some representatives of the Republican Party have criticized the armed U.S. intervention in the current battles in Beirut. These representatives voiced their absolute denunciation of this policy, which will further increase U.S. involvement in Lebanon.

Al-Kasm Interview on Economy, Lebanese Affairs

JN121727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm has said that our economy is a guided economy and despite the fact that most of the trade and basic industries are controlled by the state, the private sector plays a constructive role in the national economy in accordance with the short-term development plans.

Interviewed by (Dominique Brombir), a French television correspondent, Dr al-Kasm added: The state exerted great and tough efforts to obtain positive results in the industrial field. Moreover, agriculture enjoys strategic attention as represented by increasing the irrigated areas, constructing dams, and fixing the prices of produce.

On the impact of the war effort on economic development, Dr al-Kasm said: We in Syria are working under conditions that are not being experienced by any Arab or foreign country. The economic and social development is taking place in a country that is constantly threatened by aggression and danger. Nevertheless, the results achieved under such circumstances are worthy of consideration and appreciation due to the social and political enlightenment of the people and all workers and producers, who are aware of their stand toward all of what is happening in the region.

Dr al-Kasm continued: We depend on our intrinsic capabilities, and our economic relations are governed by a basic principle, namely, our country's interest.

Replying to a question on the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut, the prime minister said: We knew right from the beginning that the United States would sooner or later withdraw these forces because there was no longer any reason for their stay. The civil war in Lebanon is a Lebanese war in which there is no place for the Americans or others, even if they were on the side of one of the warring sides. They have acted badly and cannot stay.

On the possibilities of aggression and Syria's response to the U.S. bombardment, Dr al-Kasm emphasized that we will respond to every aggression. He added: Our forces are in their positions and our guns respond to anyone who directs fire at them. He also stressed that the Lebanese nationalist forces will not allow the Lebanese homeland to become a prey for its enemies.

Regarding the Multinational Force's role, Dr al-Kasm said: We know that the Multinational Force has not played a basic role in confronting the Israeli aggression against Lebanese territory and the Lebanese people. They have even become a party to the civil war. We are not discussing the role of the British, French, or Italian force in the Multinational Force separately, bearing in mind that the Americans constitute the basic power in this force and bearing in mind that the Italians have never interfered. We judge the role of the Multinational Force as a whole.

Regarding the available chances left for President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm said: There is the 17 May agreement. The Lebanese people are against this agreement, and Syria is also against it. The Lebanese Government admits that it is an agreement that cannot be implemented. The Lebanese people are determined to achieve their independence and unity and not to relinquish their unified identity.The first thing that should be done is the cancellation of this agreement, which was concluded under the Israeli occupation.

At the end of the interview, Dr al-Kasm said: The Syrian feeling of what the Lebanese are suffering from and what they are undergoing is only a feeling dictated by sharing one life and one affiliation. We cannot but support the Lebanese people in their confrontation of the Israeli occupation forces and all plots of partition, domination, and hegemony. Lebanon must again beindependent and unified with an Arab identity and affiliation.

Lebanon's Karami, Saudi Envoy Depart Damascus

JN111140 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Our Damascus correspondent Louis Faris told us that Rashid Karami [former Lebanese prime minister] left Damascus for Tripoli, north Lebanon today. The Saudi ambassador to Lebanon also left the Syrian capital for the Kingdom.

Shamir on Lebanese Agreement, Other Topics

TA110900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0810 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on 10 February; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] The Air Force's operations against terrorist targets in Lebanon represent another stage in our war against the terrorist organizations in Lebanon, to prevent them from getting settled in areas close to the places where we are stationed and to drive them as far away as possible from the vicinity of our border with Lebanon.

[Schiffer] You are talking about driving the terrorists away, whereas we had Katyushas falling on Metulla. These Katyushas have become a symbol — there were statements with respect to whether Katyushas would or would not fall any more. What is happening?

[Shamir] I am certain that there will be no more Katyushas. Of course, there may occasionally be an incident where one or two Katyushas explode, but this need not necessarily happen on the Lebanese border; it may also happen elsewhere. After all, anybody can with primitive means launch such a weapon against Israel. What we have prevented and what we will continue to prevent in the future as well is systematic warfare of rockets and artillery against the northern part of Israel; this will not recur.

[Schiffer] You say it will not recur but when you look at this event do you not wonder that, here, we had a war in Lebanon and still we have Katyushas?

[Shamir] No, this is merely an exception to the rule. This is an exceptional incident which has made a great impression. A Katyusha fell in a field and did not cause any casualties but people are looking at it as a symbol. Yet, this symbolizes and illustrates the fact that there are no longer any Katyushas, that there are no more shellings on the northern settlements. Occasionally there is an exception, but we should not forget what the situation was 18 months or 2 years ago when a salvo of Katyushas would be sent from Soviet rocket launchers. This has disappeared and will never return.

[Schiffer] With your permission, let me refer to another symbol of what has been happening in Lebanon: the agreement Israel signed with Lebanon on 17 May 1983. This symbol, this agreement, may be on the verge of being abrogated even before it has been ratified. What is Israel's position regarding this agreement? Will you demand [titva'] that Amin al-Jumayyil maintain this agreement?

[Shamir] Of course, agreements are signed in order to be respected and fulfilled. If the agreement is abrogated, we will also see ourselves free of all the undertakings we assumed when we signed it. This agreement between us and Lebanon contains far more concessions on our part than on Lebanon's. We signed this agreement after lengthy and tedious months of negotiations with Lebanon, taking its sovereignty into consideration. If Lebanon gives up on the agreement now, this will mean that it is giving up on its independence.

[Schiffer] What do you mean when you say that we will see ourselves free of the undertakings we assumed in the agreement?

[Shamir] If we recall the agreement, we may remember that we undertook to take Lebanon's absolute sovereignty over the border areas into consideration and we sufficed with a minimum of security arrangements. When the Lebanese element, the element of the Lebanese Government, is no longer part of the security arrangements, we will have to unilaterally ensure that these arrangements are achieved, or we will have to do so by seeking the help of other elements. In any case, we will ensure the security of northern Israel with or without the agreement.

[Schiffer] It seems that the United States supports the proposal that, in order for Amin al-Jumayyil to survive, he should give up on the agreement with Israel. What do you tell the Americans on this issue?

[Shamir] I do not think that the United States supports the abrogation of the agreement. After all, it participated in it and it played a significant role in its formulation and all the events preceding and surrounding it. Some people in the United States may think that there is no other choice and that Al-Jumayyil should perhaps acquiesce to unrestrained Syrian aggression. We think — and I think the United States knows this — that aggression cannot be weakened by capitulating to it. I think this runs counter to the line preached by the U.S. President.

[Schiffer] Do you think U.S. credibility would be harmed if Amin al-Jumayyil were indeed to abrogate the agreement and move entirely over to the Syrian side?

[Shamir] I did not say that. Credibility is composed of many factors. I believe that if anybody in the United States supports this move, this should be regarded as weakness or an error. In any case, the cancellation of this agreement will not eliminate or weaken our security effort in the area of the border with Lebanon.

[Schiffer] How do you regard the rash departure of the Marines from Beirut? Do you also regard it as an expression of weakness or as an admission of errors or mistakes?

[Shamir] I do not want to criticize U.S. moves. This is not a rash departure. After all, we have been witnessing very drastic moves on the part of the U.S. Armed Forces to help achieve stability in Lebanon and the legitimate Lebanese Government and to curb Syrian aggression. I hope this move of pulling out the Marines, which was partly caused by public opinion pressure in the United States, will not change much because, after all, we should not forget the Marine unit had not been playing any real military role in Beirut lately; it was merely a symbol.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, with your permission, I will ask you some personal questions. At the end of the week, Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon said that during Menahem Begin's tenure the government had a policy. He may have thus been criticizing you, personally, and the current government. What did this statement mean to you?

[Shamir] Of course, I do not want to argue with anybody, particularly not with a Cabinet member, in the media. However, I would like to clarify something. I would like to say that Israel's positions and moves in Lebanon are not a matter of principle or ideology. Israel's actions in Lebanon stem from its security and political interests. If these interests change — and they occasionally do — so must Israel's positions. Look, all the factors of the Lebanese formula — the Lebanese, the Syrians, the Americans — all of them have changed their positions and their line of actions several times. Therefore, I do not think that Israel, which had to operate in such an arena, should be asked to maintain the same dogmatic and inflexible line all the time.

[Schiffer] Are you personally offended by Sharon's moves, by the fact that he boycotts Cabinet sessions, by the fact that the day after he appeared on television he announced that he would run for the premiership?

[Shamir] Everybody is entitled to think whatever he pleases. When the time comes, if there is a race for the premiership within the Herut movement, every member will be allowed to postulate. I am neither anxious nor offended.

[Schiffer] Do you not intend to tell him to behave himself?

[Shamir] I occasionally talk with Minister Ari'el Sharon. I assume that we will also have the opportunity to discuss this issue.

[Schiffer] These days you are being referred as the first Mapainik prime minister of the Herut movement.

[Shamir] I do not know what this is supposed to mean. I do not understand those who describe my behavior and activities as such. If what they mean is a certain pragmatism in my statements or my decisions about lines of action, then I have many times stated that I advocate the path of loyalty to principles and flexibility regarding the ways to implement them.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you very much.

Soviet Policy, Washington Meeting

TA121947 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Speech by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to young Herut delegates from United States — live, from Jerusalem Hilton Hotel]

[Text] Allow me to raise three points that are currently at the focal point of our interest: In light of the death of the Soviet President, Yuriy Andropov, guesswork and wishful thinking has been rife throughout the world concerning the policy of his successors. This is a good time to express Israel's hope that the new Kremlin leaders will revise their Middle East policy and reach the conclusion that it is necessary to establish a free and direct dialogue with Israel. Israel hopes they will cease their massive support for the most extreme of Israel's foes and recognize the right of the members of the Jewish faith in the Soviet Union to return to their homeland and reunite with their brethren in Eretz Yisra'el. [applause]

On the other side of the world, in Washington, we have been informed that on Tuesday a meeting is scheduled to take place among the President of the United States, the president of Egypt, and the Jordanian monarch. As reported, the topic for the meeting will be Middle East peace. I would like to say that no debate on peace in the Middle East can be complete and practical without the participation of Israel, or without taking into account Israel's views and aspirations for peace and security. I would like to add and emphasize that Israel is prepared — today as ever — to resume negotiations with its neighbors and the United States over a peaceful settlement [hesder] in the Middle East, on the basis of the only realistic plan — the Camp David plan, which was supported by the leaders of two of the countries that will participate in the meeting Tuesday.

Appeal to Al-Jumayyil

TA122017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir again stated this evening that Israel will not withdraw its army from Lebanon before security arrangements that will guarantee peace for the Galilee are attained. Shamir approached President al-Jumayyil with an appeal that he not succumb to pressures to abrogate the accord with Israel. The prime minister was speaking at a conference of the Herut-HATZOHAR [Zionist revisionists] successor generation.

Moshe Arens Comments on Deployment in Lebanon

TA101920 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1840 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky — live in the studio]

[Text][Shlonsky] Mr Defense Minister, yesterday Katyushas fell on Metulla. Minister Tzipori says that we wrongly assessed the situation, and we have had it there — the Lebanese Army is collapsing, and to replace Palestinian terrorism we have Shi'ite terrorism in southern Lebanon. Is our policy in southern Lebanon bankrupt?

[Answer] No, it is not. The goal of our policy is to guarantee the security of the citizens of Israel, which is what we are doing in circumstances that are definitely not easy or comfortable. The Katyushas that fell in the Metulla area yesterday were definitely not the same as the Katyushas that fell in the past 12 months — and we experienced between five and six instances. I do not believe that any policy could result in having no Katyushas fall at all, but there have been a small number of cases and, thank goodness, no one was hurt. Those who come, come hurriedly and rush to leave, becuase the IDF is stationed in southern Lebanon. These Katyushas should serve as a reminder to all of us to recall what could happen if the IDF were not in southern Lebanon.

[Shlonsky] And what about the mistaken assessments, to use Tzipori's term, with increasing Shi'ite terrorism and the disintegration of the Lebanese Army?

[Arens] I have no idea what assessments he is talking about. He was in the government during the Peace for Galilee operation, and perhaps he feels that he made wrong assessments. I think we realized and recognized Amin al-Jumayyil's potential weakness from the start; he is not Bashir al-Jumayyil — which is why the Syrians wanted to kill Bashir al-Jumayyil. Amin al-Jumayyil is not our ally, but he has enemies some of which are also our foes: the Syrians and the terrorists — but not the Druze and Shi'ites, who are not our enemies. That is why we would prefer to see Amin al-Jumayyil overcome his own enemies, rather than the other way around. However, so far he has been unable to muster the ability, leadership, or military power to be able to do this and this is something to be sorry about. However, this is not a problem of a wrong assessment on our part.

[Shlonsky] You said a number of times that the IDF is waiting in southern lebanon to establish a substitute, a local militia replacement — or the Lebanese Army — to take over the IDF's responsibility of preventing the return of terrorists. It does not look like the Lebanese Army will reach the south, and the Shi'ites, too, are waiting in abeyance. Is this not, perhaps, the time for the IDF to make new decisions regarding the deployment in Lebanon?

[Arens] The decision we adopted — from which I think we must not deviate — is not to leave southern Lebanon so long as we have not found a substitute for the work the IDF is doing in southern Lebanon to prevent terrorist activity against the northern part of Israel. As I told you already, the Katyushas that fell on Metulla yesterday are a reminder of what could happen if we should leave — and there are people who have been giving us desperate advice and issuing desperate calls for us to leave, and leave at once. We would like to relieve the pressure placed on us; we would like to find, or establish, alternative forces — and we are working on it. I would not say that this is a lost case, but on the other hand I cannot tell you that this is an easy feat.

[Shlonsky] Would you say that the longer we stay there the greater the chance is of establishing local forces, or would that only hinder the chance?

[Arens] I do not think it is getting farther away. It could have become more distant, to a certain degree, because we had some hopes that the Lebanese Army would come south — which would have been the best solution, for after all the area in question is southern Lebanon, a part of Lebnaon, so that the body that should by nature carry out this mission is the Lebanese Army. However, at the moment it does not look like this is possible — certainly not in the near future — and we will have to work toward finding other solutions.

[Shlonsky] What about the Shi'ites?

[Arens] The Shi'ites are not Israel's enemies. Just like the situation with other elements in the Middle East, the Shi'ites, too, have an extremist branch, or extremist trends which include fanatical, zealot supporters of Ayatollah Khomeyni in Iran. They are our enemies, but not just our enemies. They are the enemies of any cultured, Western element in the Middle East. However, the mainstream of the Shi'ite community in Lebanon is not hostile to us.

[Shlonsky] Would you say, right now, that you would recommend continuing to deploy in lebanon along the present lines until an alternative force is found?

[Arens] For now, I would say so, definitely.

[Shlonsky] Minister Sharon said this week on Moqed that whoever gambles and places all his bets on Junblatt and the Druze — and I presume he meant you — has indirectly brought about the collapse of the Al-Jumayyil regime. Is this acceptable to you?

[Arens] I think there is a mistake here — and I hope it is an optical illusion and not a logical one: We are, and have been, in contact with the Druze, and have had a clear and unambiguous goal, to make sure that after the IDF left the Ash-Shuf area, the Druze would not act against us or let terrorists operate against us from that area. We have achieved that goal so far, and I think it has been a very important one.

[Shlonsky] Would you like the deployment in southern Lebanon to be such that the Druze guard their border against terrorists?

[Arens] If you mean that the Shi'ites make sure that there are no terrorist acts against us, then I would say certainly. This is one of the principles which we are striving to reach: to try and geta dialogue with the Shi'ites. The Shi'ites are not interested in allowing the terrorists to return to the region — and perhaps one should recall that there was a period when the Shi'ites fought against the terrorists at the time the PLO controlled southern Lebanon, since the Shi'ites suffered more than anyone else. We are hoping that this constitutes a common denominator between the Shi'ites and us.

[Shlonsky] Mr Minister, Syria opposes the Israeli-Lebanese accord. What will Israel do if the United States asks Israel to agree to it being revoked in order to help Al-Jumayyil stabilize his administration?

[Arens] One must keep in mind what the agreement includes, and the significance of the accord with Israel. The agreement stipulates that the Government of Lebanon undertakes a commitment to prevent terrorist acts against Israel from southern Lebanon. The moment there exists an administration in Lebanon that cannor, or is unprepared to, carry out this mission — and this may very well happen, if Amin capitulates to the Syrians — then the issue of the accord would automatically become theoretical. Then we will have to make sure there is no terrorist activity against Israel from southern Lebanon, which we have been doing by virtue of the fact that the IDF is currently stationed in southern Lebanon.

[Shlonsky] But in formal terms, if the United States approaches us and asks us to acquiese to President al-Jumayyil's request that the accord be revoked, will we respond to this?

[Arens] To the best of my knowledge, no such appeal has come. If it should come, I suppose it will be discussed by the Cabinet, and right now I cannot tell you what the Cabinet will resolve to do.

[Shlonsky] In order to help Al-Jumayyil, the Americans have been firing shells from the *USS New Jersey*. How far is Israel prepared to go, what price is it ready to pay to help al-Jumayyil stabilize his regime, and thus perhaps also help ourselves?

[Arens] We have principles which we have declared, which include continued action against terrorist bases in Lebanon. Today the Air Force carried out an operation against these bases. We have told the Druze that we are not prepared to accept a terrorist presence in the areas which we evacuated. We will take action to make sure this really does not happen, but we will not launch a war for one party or another in Lebanon. President al-Jumayyil and the Government of Lebanon are not Israeli allies; they do not even have diplomatic ties with Israel. Even if we had made certain investments in a bid to improve his predicament, it is not at all clear what would happen the next day.

[Shlonsky] What about a U.S. request that we come and help with firepower?

[Arens] These, too, are matters that require a Cabinet debate and decision, which to my regret have not been concluded.

[Shlonsky] Finally, Mr Minister, are you optimistic about the possibility of achieving peace for the Galilee, and the justness of the moves that precede getting that peace?

[Arens] I am optimistic that the chances for the well-being of the citizens of Israel — all of Israel, particularly in the north — are good. I am optimistic because we have a good army, and because we are determined that this is an objective we must attain —and one which, moreover, we have been able to achieve in the course of the past year. Furthermore, I am optimistic that we will be successful in achieving this in future as well.

Rabin Sees Positive Element in Marine Evacuation

TA101203 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Feb 84 Political Supplement p 1

[Commentary by Yitzhaq Rabin: "The Evacuation of the Marines: The Positive Aspect"]

[Text] There is at least one significant positive aspect to President Reagan's decision to evacuate the Marines from Beirut: It symbolizes the end of the age of illusions entertained by the United States, Israel, and the Al-Jumayyil administration in regard to the objectives that could be attained in the Lebanese crisis. Thus it may pave the way to a certain realistic solution — insofar as Israel is concerned.

Ever since September 1982 unfeasible illusions characterized U.S. and Israeli policy (with the Israeli Government having entertained illusions even prior to the outbreak of the war in Lebanon). The United States believed it would be able to bring about the evacuation of all the foreign forces from Lebanon and establish a central regime headed by President al-Jumayyil that would be able to hold a tight rein over all of Lebanon — through dependence on the Lebanese Army, which was to be refurbished by the United States. Israel for its part believed it would be able to reach an Israeli-Lebanese peace treaty.

Yet both countries, as well as Al-Jumayyil, overlooked the primary element in Lebanon — the Syrian Army — and from all the local factors, such as the Druze and the Shi'ites, and their desires in connection with how they envisioned a central Lebanese regime. In effect, it was possible to assess in advance that these objectives were unattainable. Thus, ever since then, all the elements whose political and military activities were guided by these objectives merely pushed the situation in Lebanon toward a dead end.

Now comes the decision to remove the Marines from Beirut, and it constitutes an admission by the United States that it is recoiling from the targets it had placed for itself, which is why all the elements in Lebanon must reassess what can be attained following the extended war in Lebanon, and what is unattainable.

From the Lebanese standpoint, the dominant external factor that will determine more than any other element that country's political future is the Syrian Army — in other words, diktats arriving from Damascus. Anyone reviewing Syrian policy since the outset of their involvement in that country in 1976 understands clearly that they never wanted — nor do they want now — to annex Lebanon, or even partition it. They want to establish there a weak central regime, headed by a Christian president. Under the circumstances that have now been created, President al-Jumayyil will have no alternative but to try and reach a new national consensus in Lebanon on a basis different from that to which he had originally aspired. Now he will be forced to admit and recognize Syrian dominance, and give room for the Druze headed by Junblatt and the Shi'ites headed by Nabih Birri to express their own hopes. In my opinion, the earlier he does this, the better the chance the Christians have of maintaining control over East Beirut and the mountain regions — that is, the greater their chance of at least returning to the same situation that prevailed in that country prior to the war.

One must not rule out the possibility that as part of this sobering up process, Al-Jumayyil might have to revoke the Lebanese-Israeli accord, which in practical terms is not worth the paper it was written on.

From Israel's point of view, the situation now calls for concentrating on finding a practical solution to its prime security problem in Lebanon: preventing the terrorists from having a substantial ability to hit the northern settlements and their inhabitants.

Israel must wake up and rescind the two conditions it has so far presented for an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon: the evacuation of the Syrian Army and the arrival of the Lebanese Army — by virtue of its being the representative of a strong central regime in Beirut — in southen Lebanon to undertake the mission of securing the northern border.

Israel now has two options:

— To base the security of the northern part of the country on a permanent IDF presence in a security strip in southern Lebanon, 40 km away from the northern border;

— To withdraw from Lebanon and base security in that strip on local forces — Christian and Shi'ite alike — with a reinforced

UNIFIL contingent preventing the entrance of large Syrian and terrorist forces into the security strip, as well as deploying in observation posts north of that area.

To the best of my understanding, the second alternative is better. The continued IDF presence in Lebanon creates dangers whose full import is hard to foresee today. For example, it is difficult to envision how strong the Shi'ite terrorism might grow to be, and it is more dangerous than the hazard presented by the PLO, and may even spread into Israel and outside it.

It would be preferable for the Government of Israel to presently make an effort to bring about the solution of the security problem along the northern border by way of implementing the second alternative. Even after it withdraws, the IDF will be able to maintain an intelligence watch on events within that strip, and will reserve the military freedom of action to penetrate it again, if and when terrorist concentrations are found there.

Six months ago it was easier to implement that alternative. Perhaps after the resolution to remove the Marines and the expected resultant military outcome in Lebanon — primarily the increased Syrian influence — that alternative will be in danger of becoming impossible in the future as well. Therefore, the Israeli Cabinet would be well advised to reach that solution now, and the sooner the better.

Shim'on Peres Comments on Lebanon Situation

TA121524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres has said that the prime minister is mistaken when he threatens that Israel will not fulfill its commitments if Lebanon cancels the agreement between the two countries. In his opinion, the Cabinet must overcome the disgrace, admit that this has been a superfluous, expensive, and unsuccessful war, and get out of Lebanon within a few months. By then Israel must unilaterally fulfill the arrangements decided upon in the agreement with Lebanon.

Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that Shim'on Peres also thinks that the evacuation of the U.S. Marines from Beirut is, to a certain extent, making things easier for Israel, because those Marines made no contribution to our security. However, the impression in the United States was that that was part of their role.

MK Peres spoke in 'Arad.

Tzipori on South Lebanon Security Arrangements

TA101112 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1045 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Minister Mordekhay Tzipori says Israel has reached an understanding with the Druze and Christians in Lebanon regarding everything connected with the security arrangements in southern Lebanon. Minister Tzipori added that Israel simultaneously maintains contacts with the Shi'ites in Lebanon, but that there are still difficulties regarding the achievement of an agreement. Israel will not rely on the Lebanese Army, Tzipori said, if and when the practical negotiations produce an agreement on security arrangements in Lebanon. Minister Tzipori visited Metulla this morning and our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz spoke with him.

Opposes Lebanon Redeployment

TA101252 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Minister Mordekhay Tzipori says the attack on Metulla yesterday does not herald a new era and does not warrant a redeployment of the IDF in southern Lebanon. In a talk with our correspondent Yo'el Dar, Minister Tzipori said that Israel will have to take steps if a route is opened for the return of the terrorists to Beirut and southern Lebanon following the blows suffered by the regime of President al-Jumayyil, and he refused to specify. According to him, it is now necessary to continue to cultivate an understanding with all the communities in Lebanon. He says that up to the present time, Israel was able to reach an understanding with the Druze and the Maronites.

Israel Warns Against Lebanon Agreement 'Freeze'

TA101722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Israel announced today that it is rejecting the U.S. attempts to bring about a freeze of the accord with Lebanon. Israel's ambassador in the United States, Me'ir Rosenne, conferred today with Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger on the matter and told him that any attempt to harm this agreement will only serve to encourage Syria and the rejectionist countries.

Our Washington correspondent Razi Barqay reports that at the meeting, Israel-Egypt relations were also discussed extensively in light of President Mubarak's upcoming visit to Wahsington next week. The ambassador told Eagleburger about Israel's concern over the fact that Mubarak is drifting away [histalquto] from the spirit of the Camp David accords. Israel is demanding [doreshet] that the U.S. Administration pressure Mubarak to send his ambassador back to Tel Aviv and avoid trying to amend Resolution 242.

Sources Blame U.S. for Lebanese Situation

TA120532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] This morning the Cabinet will discuss the situation in Lebanon and ways to reduce the IDF's presence. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer notes that no decisions are expected on this issue. Senior IDF commanders will present various possibilities for a withdrawal to the Cabinet.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal says that the argument is over the following points: Should we get out of Sidon? Should we withdraw to the Az-Zahrani or to the Litani line? Should An-Nabatiyah remain within the IDF's jurisdiction? Israel will have to see that somebody who is able to ensure that the terrorists do not return to the region remains in the areas that would be vacated by the IDF. Those who also favor a withdrawal from Jabal al-Baruk say it has been proven that the IDF's presence 27 km west of Damascus is deterring Syria.

One of the ministers told our political correspondent last night that if the IDF redeploys in Lebanon it should do so simultaneously with the departure of the Multinational Force from Beirut; otherwise, Israel would be held responsible for what is happening in Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that Washington administration officials recently told Israeli officials that Israel should not protest if President al-Jumayyil abrogated the agreement with it because the agreement is worthless. Senior political sources in Jerusalem note that the mistakes committed by the Washington Administration caused the present situation in Lebanon.

Details on Cabinet Session

TA121609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] At its weekly session today, the Cabinet heard reports and evaluations by top defense establishment and intelligence community personalities on the situation in Lebanon, but the matter was debated in the forum of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. The ministers began discussing problems arising from the situation in Lebanon, and the debate will be pursued in another Cabinet session.

'New Developments' Expected

TA121953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Report by political correspondent Yoram Ronen, live from the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel]

[Text] The fact that the Cabinet refrained from concluding its debate on Lebanon today has been interpreted to mean that new developments in Washington, Beirut, and Damascus are expected. Jerusalem is thus anticipating an announcement from the United States that it opposes a unilateral revocation of the accord we reached with Lebanon. The prime minister hopes he will be able to convince the Americans that the abrogation of the agreement is tantamount to giving Syria the right to veto or cancel any agreement between us and an Arab country: Lebanon, Jordan, or Egypt.

The hope was expressed in the Cabinet today that there will be no exacerbation in Israeli-U.S. relations over events in Lebanon. Furthermore, the fact that the Syrians are taking such great pains to have the accord abrogated — it was noted in Jerusalem — proves how important that accord is, even if right now it has only a symbolic value.

The prime minister believes that at present it is necessary to review the announcement that emanated from Damascus today, as well as the reports and assessments voiced by the chief of staff and the IDF generals at the Cabinet session — whose content, of course, is completely confidential. It looks as though the Cabinet debate will not be summed up before the prime minister returns from his visit to Belgium and the Netherlands in the middle of next week.

POST Urges IDF Redeployment in South Lebanon

TA120816 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Feb 84 p 8

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir is pressing Lebanese President al-Jumayyil not to step back from the May 17, 1983 agreement with Israel. That agreement contained three principal elements: termination of the state of war with Israel, an Israeli commitment to withdraw its forces (with an unpublished proviso making this dependent upon a similar Syrian military withdrawal), and acceptable security arrangements for southern Lebanon.

Syrian obduracy, Syrian pressure, and Lebanese weakness undermined the agreement from its first moment. Within months, Israeli forces in the Ash-Shuf, vulnerable to the communal hostilities around them, were unilaterally withdrawn to a new line at the Al-Awwali River.

Unofficially Israel gave up on the agreement. But it did not fully act on this healthy instinct. It still hoped to establish suitable security arrangements up to the Al-Awwali with local militia forces. But weakness in Beirut frustrated this goal as well, meanwhile exposing Israeli troops to a guerrilla war of attrition.

It is a rather exotic notion to expect President al-Jumayyil today to honour what he would not honour months and weeks ago. The real question for Israel, therefore, is not the agreement, but how to salvage security in the north and whether Israeli presence at the Al-Awwali line is the best and only way to do this.

Even when the government chose that line, there were voices in and outside the defence establishment that favoured a more southerly position, excluding Sidon, with its large population. Those voices sound even more cogent today, as Israel's policing of the area becomes ever more costly and difficult.

For reasons not quite clear, the government appears more adamant about staying put on the Al-Awwali. Presumably Mr. Shamir does not now hope that the embattled Mr. al-Jumayyil will furnish a mechanism to enable Israel to withdraw. Why then talk as if he does?

Certainly the premier should not fear domestic reaction of the May 17 Agreement is not upheld, or if the Al-Awwali line is exchanged for a more viable and southerly defence zone, given to Israeli control, with perhaps UN troops to the north of it.

Quite the contrary, he should be intent on securing such a zone quickly, lest even that becomes difficult to salvage from the wreckage of the Lebanese war.

Military Sources on Situation in Lebanon

TA100746 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 15

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] About one-third of the Lebanese Army has ceased to function and thousands of troops have defected, according to Israeli military souuces

Two and a half of the seven Lebanese Army brigades have been neutralized after losing West Beirut to Shi'ite, Druse and Palestinian militias.

According to these sources, there are about 1,000 terrorists in the Beirut area, with more streaming in all the time through Druse lines, and 1,300 Shi'ites.

The Shi'ites, the sources said, are incapable of launching a major organized attack against well defended Lebanese objectives, but have scored big successes in urban warfare, rendering useless Lebanese Army units defending downtown Beirut.

The Israeli Military sources were unsure about Amin al-Jumayyil's future, but said that the American bombardments of Shi'ite and Syrian positions over the past two days have given Al-Jumayyil respite.

They said there was no doubt the Syrians were behind all recent events in Lebanon, but predicted that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad would not commit battalions to the battle. If he did, he would involve himself with both Israel and the Americans, which the Israeli military here thinks Al-Asad does not wish to do.

Thus far the Syrians have scored several notable victories, the sources said: The Shi'ites have been setting the pace of things and dictating terms; they have achieved the deterioration of the Lebanese Army; they have caused the withdrawal of the multinational forces; they have placed a huge question mark over the legitimacy of the government of Al-Jumayyil; and they have turned the May 17 peace agreement into fiction.

Military experts here said that while the American bombardments may be effective in the short-term, they would not be enough to keep Al-Jumayyil in power.

The bombardments were ineffective against the urban deployment of the Shi'ites and others fighting the Lebanese Army, they said. Also, by withdrawing, the U.S. has indicated a slackening of its commitment to the Al-Jumayyil government.

The Israeli miltiary also feels that now that the U.S. Marines are being removed from Beirut, the Americans will be less willing to respond to anti-Al-Jumayyil attacks on the ground, especially if these attacks are not aimed directly at the Americans, but rather at American interests.

It was too early yesterday to say what effect events in the north have had on the southern parts of Lebanon under Israeli control, the sources said.

The Shi'ites of the south are waiting to see what the Al-Amal leadership decides to do, politically, in the north. There is a chance, military sources felt, that Al-Amal may choose to establish a modus vivendi with the Israel Defence Forces in the south, though they were not overly optimistic about this happening.

The IDF, the sources said, was now assessing the implications of events in recent days. They said, however, that Al-Jumayyil's fall would not be to Israel's benefit, since Al-Jumayyil's government is basically pro-Western, and is, after all, the government that signed the peace treaty with Israel.

Lebanese Army Prevents Northward Traffic From South

TA130758 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Report from the north by Menahem Horowitz — recorded]

[Text] Several dozen Lebanese Army soldiers recently positioned themselves near Khaldah on the Lebanese coastal road and are forcably preventing civilians moving northward from southern Lebanon. Lebanese civilians who managed to move from northern Lebanon to the south said that the Lebanese Army soldiers fear that radical elements from the south will try to join the leftist fighters in Beirut. On several occasions these soldiers fired shots in the air in order to prevent the passage of Lebanese civilians.

Soldiers set up roadblocks on the lebanese coastal road, thus effectively severing southern Lebanon from the northern part. The number of Lebanese civilians crossing the Al-Awwali bridges is close to nil. Over the last 24 hours the Lebanese Army soldiers and the Phalangists allowed the passage from north to south of dozens of coffins containing Lebanese soldiers and civilians who were killed in the Bierut battles. Trade between the two parts of the country was stopped and many Lebanese merchants want to renew their relations with Israel.

Radios Report on Attacks in Lebanon

Ad-Da'siyah Incident

TA111613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] An IDF position near Ad-Da'siyah south of the Az-Zahrani River was attacked today by automatic fire. Nobody was hit. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that IDF soldiers returned fire at the orchard from which they had been attacked. A search of the area was also carried out.

Four Wounded in An-Nabatiyah

TA130954 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0947 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Four IDF soldiers were wounded in An-Nabatiyah this morning. The IDF spokesman reports that small arms fire was directed and a hand grenade was thrown at an IDF patrol there. The wounded soldiers were evacuated to the hospital and the IDF forces have begun searches.

MA'ARIV: Strategic Understanding With U.S. 'Dying'

TA121034 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 p 8

[Sha'ul Ben-Hayim commentary: "The 'Strategic Understanding' With The United States Is Dying Out"]

[Text] The Lebanese avalanche is not only threatening the U.S. status in the eastern basin of the Mediterranean Sea and Israel's ability to rescue the remaining avowed objectives of the war but is also menacing the strategic agreement between Washington and Jerusalem. After all, if we were to accept the opinion of strategic expert Edward Lutwak, "every agreement is based on the convergence of the interests of both countries in Lebanon."

The chief reason for this is that the understanding reached in the talks between President Reagan and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir remained on the most senior level and was not put into practice by the lower levels. At the beginning it was said that two subcommittees, one military and one political, would be established to translate the general guidelines into action in the field. However, the military subcommittee — just to mention one example — has held only one meeting so far and the postponements may not have been incidental.

The political and military establishment in Washington was not pleased with the very fact of a close understanding with Israel. Administration officials regarded it as a dangerous turning point in the foundations of Middle East policy which has always relied on the Arabs. Occasionally, Israel could be used to threaten the Arabs, but they regarded the strategic agreement as a rash, dangerous and far-reaching move.

Since their opinion was also accepted by senior levels, these officials had no difficulty postponing the practical implementation of the abstract understanding. Had Beirut not gone up in flames, the talks may have produced some results. However, the events in Beirut actually made the secret wish of the skeptics come true: The understanding became mere words.

The Americans admit that the collapse in Lebanon was a surprise. Not only did they not predict it, but they are now also feverishly searching for possible solutions. Since they have no plans they are merely groping in the dark. Because they are in trouble, some of them would half-heartedly admit that "it is a shame that the strategic understanding did not foster relations of mutual trust between the U.S. and Israeli armies. Had that been the case, we could have raised other ideas to handle the situation."

The fact is that relations of confidence which would have enabled senior officers of both armies to sit down together were not established. Therefore, it is not possible to use this reservoir of information and experience to consider other optimal moves.

Does this mean that the new situation in Lebanon will do away with the entire basis of the strategic understanding? The White House will reply negatively. Politically speaking, the President must continue to defend the understanding which had become an important political asset. However, in practice, those opposed to the agreement will probably be able to celebrate its vanishment. All those who objected to the intellectual turnabout in U.S. policy in the Middle East might seize the collapse in Beirut to turn the wheel around: to once again place the emphasis of U.S. policy on the Arab camp, regardless of whether it is moderate or extreme so long as it is Arab.

As a first move, the future sacrifice of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement — which was achieved with the help of the United States and which was supposed to anchor relations between the two countries —has been suggested. The current excuse is that it must be abrogated to save President Amin al-Jumayyil, even though its proponents do not at all believe that the president can be saved. Their real intention is to remove the "obstacle" — any agreement with the Jewish state — that has been infuriating the Saudis and the Syrians.

The understanding with the Americans can be saved only if a decision is made to expand it — namely, if it is deepened and widened — beyond the narrow Lebanese issue and apply it to other areas of the Middle East. Such a change will not occur on its own. Of course, it will call for another intimate conversation on the most senior level in which the U.S. President would be asked to explain why the process he had decided upon was postponed for such a long time and whether one should presume that all the obstacles will now be removed. Otherwise, there is not much sense in discussing the adjustment of the original understanding to the new situation.

If that happened, the strategic cooperation would have died with a whimper.

Talks With U.S. on Jordanian Force Continue

TA121121 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Niva Lanir]

[Text] Contrary to reports in Washington, political sources in Jerusalem yesterday argued that the negotiations between Israel and the United States on the Jordanian task force have not been completed (on Friday the *DAVAR* correspondent in Washington reported that President Reagan is awaiting Israel's official reply on this subject).

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that in recent talks, the Israeli and U.S. sides reached certain understandings concerning the task force: The United States and Jordan would give guarantees that the force would not be used against Israel; the U.S. pledge would be public while Jordan would express its pledge indirectly; the weapons in the force's warehouses would be used only after coordination with the United States; the quantity of the "Stinger" missiles would be limited; the force would number 8,000 soldiers out of whom 2,500 would be transported by U.S. C-130, C-141, and C-150 [as published] planes.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that the U.S. public pledge to Israel would be worded as follows: "Israel, is is well known, is opposed to the supply of U.S. arms to any Arab country which does not participate in the peace process with it. The U.S. assessment is that in this case Israel assumes that the supply of military equipment to Jordan does not pose a military threat to it. The United States accepts Israel's fundamental position about not supplying weapons that could be directed against it to countries that are in a state of war with Israel."

Egypt's 'Ali on Relations, Treaty With Israel

TA130742 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] We have the first Egyptian clarification to the remarks Moroccan King Hassan attributed to Egyptian President Mubarak to the effect that Egypt has reneged [histalqa] on the Camp David agreement. In an interview to our correspondent in Washington 'Oded Granot, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt adheres to the peace treaty with Israel and the Camp David agreement and that Egypt will honor all the commitments it undertook.

[Begin recording] [Granot] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told me this morning in an unequivocal manner: Egypt adheres to the peace treaty it signed with Israel; we have always honored the commitments we undertook and we shall continue to do so in the future too.

['Ali, in English] You know, we always have and we always will respect our commitments in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the framework of the peace in the Middle East.

[Granot] This is the first reaction by a high-level Egyptian personage to the remarks attributed to President Mubarak to the effect that the Camp David accord no longer exists for Egypt. The Egyptian foreign minister's soothing remarks are intended to disperse fears in Israel of an unfavorable turning point in the peace process in the wake of Egypt's joining the Islamic circle. The Egyptian foreign minister took care to define this return to the circle of Islamic countries as an appeal made to Egypt to return to the fold of the Islamic nation and not as an Egyptian request that was compiled with.

The Egyptian president, who dined with King Husayn last evening and who will meet with both him and President Reagan tomorrow, will contribute toward removing doubts in Israel regarding the validity of peace. This was done in an interview which will be published in *THE WASHINGTON POST* this week and will be done also in the talk with President Reagan, who will surely raise the issue that a cold peace exists in Israeli-Egyptian relations. Mubarak's political adviser, Usamah al-Baz, will reiterate this in interviews he will grant to local television networks here.

Husni Mubarak is aware of the negative repercussions — in the United States as well as in Israel — King Hassan ascribed to him regarding Egypt's attitude to the Camp David accord and is now making every effort to guarantee that this will not affect his main objective for visiting Washington: to discuss U.S. economic aid to Egypt and reach a balance with Israel in this sphere, rather than to discuss ways of promoting the peace process. This goal of promoting the peace process rather features prominently with President Reagan, who is seeking achievements in an election year and wants to point to the tripartite meeting in the White House tomorrow as additional evidence that the U.S. Administration has not abandoned its political efforts.

During his talk with me this morning, the Egyptian foreign minister disclosed that Cairo has not abandoned its joint initiative with France for a new formulation of the UN Security Council's resolution on the Palestinian issue, probably by the inclusion of a clause which will emphasize the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. At a certain stage, Kamal Hasan 'Ali says, there will be no avoiding such a formula which will suit the needs of all parties involved.

As for Lebanon, the Egyptian foreign minister claims that after the evacuation of the Marines it will be absolutely necessary to fill the vacuum by UN forces, and later it will be necessary to continue the preparations for a withdrawal by the Israelis and Syrians. 'Ali shows understanding for Amin al-Jumayyil's need to have a dialogue with Al-Asad, just as he did with Israel, but does not support Syrian intervention in Lebanese domestic affairs, just as Egypt did not support Libyan intervention in Chad. [end recording]

Israeli Arabs Approve Political Document

TA091243 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Report by Yo'el Dar — recorded]

[Excerpts] The leaders of local councils in 38 Arab villages in the Galilee and the Triangle convened in Shefar'am yesterday with two issues on the agenda: the establishment of a new committee and the financial crisis they are facing. However, RAKAH's Arabic-language organ, *AL-ITTIHAD*, carried this headline today: "The Representatives of the Arab Population Have Approved a Historic Document."

Among other things they call for an immediate withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon, Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip and the establishment of a PLO-led Palestinian state alongside the State of Israel. The participants in the meeting condemned what they called the means of suppression under occupation. They explain that the intervention by Arab public leaders is not accidental. They are part of the Palestinian Arab people and therefore the fate of this people concerns them directly.

The participants also see themselves as part of the State of Israel. Nevertheless, they protest the government's policy which, according to them, is based on ethnic discrimination, economic straits, and laws which discriminate against the Arab populace.

The head of the Deir al-Asad local council, Abu Kamal, claims that he and his colleagues did not endorse this document. According to him, 2 hours after the beginning of the meeting the document was distributed as a manifesto. Some of the participants read it while others put it in their pockets, but no vote was held. It is worthwhile noting that a document along similar lines was going to be adopted 3 years ago at a special rally in Nazareth. However, Menahem Begin, who was defense minister as well then, banned the convening of the rally due to the sensitivity of the issue.

Grenade Incidents in W. Bank, Gaza; No Casualties

TA111811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] A booby-trapped grenade exploded near Bethlehem at noon. It was apparently one of the type used by the IDF. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that a local inhabitant picked up a box, heard the ticking of the fuse, and hurried away from the spot.

At noon a grenade was thrown at an Israeli vehicle in Gaza. The grenade shattered the windshield, landed in the vehicle, but did not explode.

Military Court Sentences Fatah Youths

TA122030 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2020 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Ramallah, 12 Feb (ITIM) — Severe sentences of between 5 and 12 years in jail were handed down today by the Ramallah military court to three Hebron youths who belonged to Fatah and who threw makeshift bombs. The three, aged between 18 and 20, were convicted of having thrown improvised bombs at an Israeli vehicle, an IDF position in Bet Hadassah, an IDF position in Bet Romano, and an Arab policeman between July and September 1983.

The defendant who was the main instigator of the incidents was given a 12-year prison term; the second who participated in two incidents was sentenced to 8 years in jail; and the third, who participated in one incident, was given a 5-year prison term. All three belonged to Fatah.

The court, comprised of three judges presided over by Amnon Strashnov, who is the president of the military courts, noted in the verdict that at issue was a subversive organization whose goal was to kill Jews simply because they were Jews. The verdict pointed out that fortunately no damage was done.

Uzan on TAMI Participation in Coalition

TA101809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Minister of Labor and Welfare Aharon Uzan reports that TAMI will not be a member of the Cabinet if the government has no comprehensive economic policy by the end of March and the commitments to TAMI are not fulfilled. In an interview with David Margalit [Voice of Israel anchorman], Minister Uzan said that the proposals put forward so far were not an economic policy; more should be taken from people with means, and the economy's growth should be fostered. He said that he had submitted many proposals to the minister of finance and the minister of industry, and he will demand that the Cabinet discuss them.

Labor Party, TAMI Young Guard To Cooperate

TA121712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The TAMI guard and the Labor Party will cooperate. in a secret meeting held between the leaders of the two parties' younger generations, it was decided to establish a joint forum to decide on social and economic matters, and attempts will be made to try to coordinate moves toward advancing the elections.

RAKAH MK Wilner Reacts to Andropov's Death

TA101338 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1215 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Telephone interview with RAKAH leader MK Me'ir Wilner by Yaron Deqel "a few minutes ago" — recorded]

[Text] [Wilner] I think this is a great loss for the Soviet Union. I could put it as follows: This is a great loss for that section of humanity that seeks peace and progress.

[Deqel] You visited Moscow about 2 weeks ago; did you sense anything special?

[Wilner] I understand it was known that Andropov was ill, but I did not feel any particular atmosphere in this context. In our talk with Chernenko and Ponomarev, we were given a personal greeting from Andropov, and he followed the political developments and meetings. I understand that past experience has already shown there is a collective leadership in the Soviet Union by now and they are managing to hold things — both domestic and foreign policies — together. It is a great disaster, but a new secretary and president will undoubtedly be elected in the Soviet Union.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Sends Condolences Over Andropov Death

LD111059 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Following the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and general secretary of the FLN party, has sent a cable of condolences to the Soviet leaders on behalf of the Algerian people, party, and government.

Gives Condolences at Embassy

LD121128 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/84 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN Party secretary general, went yesterday to the Soviet Union Embassy in Algiers to present his condolences after the death of President Yuriy Andropov. The head of state was accompanied by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member and foreign affairs minister. Here is the text registered by President Chadli Bendjedid in the register of condolences:

"By bending over the memory of the late President Yuriy Andropov, I hail a great Soviet militant who had continuously worked for the edification of a society of progress and justice. The death of Mr Yuriy Andropov, one of the great statesmen of the Soviet Union, leaves in us the memory of sincere and dignified work, which marks by its noble objectives the history of the Soviet Union. The entire international community will keep in mind the particular efforts he exerted in the service of peace in the world.

On behalf of the Algerian people, its FLN Party and its government and in these distressing circumstances for the Soviet Union, I present to its friendly people, its party and its leaders, our most sorrowful condolences.

'Arafat Arrives for Talks With Bendjedid

LD122129 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Algiers this afternoon. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar was welcomed by Brothers Abderrazak Bouhara and Sadok Zouiten, members of the FLN party Central Committee; Brother Abu al-'Izz, representative of the PLO and the Fatah movement in Algiers; and cadres of the Palestinian revolution in Algiers.

The brother leader was accompanied by Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee and of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement.

In a short statement to the local press, Brother leader Abu 'Ammar said that his visit is part of the effort being made to strengthen the struggle of our Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian land, in the light of the racist and savage Zionist practices aimed at consecrating Zionist occupation and destroying the spiritual institutions in our occupied homeland, particularly the recent conspiracy seeking to destroy the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque, the first of the two Qibla and the third holy place.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added that he will discuss with Algerian brother officials, particularly President Chadli Bendjedid, the common efforts to reinforce the Palestinian struggle, especially on the occasion of the convening of the ninth conference of the General Union of Palestinian students in Algiers. The conference opened a short while ago in the Palais des Nations in Algiers in the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

FLN Official Messaadia Returns From Tunisia

LD111631 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Tunis, 11 Feb (APS) — Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Politburo and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, returned today to Algeria after joining with Mr Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and minister of the interior, in celebrating the 26th anniversary of the events of Saqiet Sidi Youssef.

After the festivities, a working session was held in the Governorate of Al-Kaf, which included the Algerian and Tunisian delegations. The two sides assessed the cooperation between the two countries in various fields. After a luncheon banquet held by the Tunisian head of state in Mr Messaadia's honor, Mr Messaadia made a statement, which noted:

During this visit, we held a working session with Mr Mzali. We reviewed the development of Algerian-Tunisian cooperation. I am confident that this visit was fruitful in more than one field and has allowed for further consolidation of the fraternal ties between our two peoples and the leaderships of our countries.

LIBYA

Secretariat Urges Strikes at U.S. Interests

LD101607 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1555 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, 10 February — The permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has affirmed the need for all Arab forces and masses to act and to shoulder immediately their responsibility for facing up to the flagrant American aggression in Lebanon by all means possible, including striking at American interests in the Arab homeland.

This affirmation was contained in a statement issued by the delegates' council of the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress following its meeting yesterday evening. The statement noted the dangerous escalation of aggression by the American Administration against the Arab people in Lebanon, using the U.S. naval fleet and air force to direct intense fire, causing damage and devastation to many Lebanese villages and civilians.

The statement saluted the steadfastness of the Lebanese National Salvation Front against the aggression and the great victories it achieved, forcing the oppressive American forces to flee to the sea. The statement affirmed that the current situation in Lebanon demands from all Arab forces and masses that they assume their responsibilities immediately and provide full support to the Lebanese National Salvation Front and Syria to enable them to rout the treacherous American aggression in the Arab homeland.

Al-Qadhdhafi Offers Condolences at USSR Embassy

LD121541 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution this morning paid a visit to the Soviet Embassy in Tripoli, where he offered his sincere condolences on the death of the late Soviet president, Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The leader offered his condolences to the Soviet ambassador and members of the embassy. He wrote the following in the condolences register:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful:
Every soul will encounter death. We would like to express our deep sorrow, because we have lost another dear friend, the friend President Yuriy Andropov, and on this occasion we would like to offer the most sincere condolences to our Soviet friends. On this sad occasion, we would like to affirm our unwavering determination to continue constructing strategic friendship with the peoples of the Soviet Union and record our firm resolve to develop relations with them in all spheres. We are from God and unto Him we return.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Khomeyni on Anniversary

LD102259 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 10 Feb 84

["Text" of telegram sent by the 'brother leader' to Iran's Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the Iranian revolution]

[Text] To Imam Khomeyni:

The 5th anniversary of the Islamic Iranian revolution reminds us of the momentous sacrifices the heroic Iranian people made in their resistance against the regime of reactionary subservience and [word indistinct] sacrifices they made without hesitation or fear.

On this immortal anniversary, we cannot but stand with head bowed before those martyrs and salute most respectfully the gallant Iranian nation. This anniversary affirms to the entire world that the people will triumph with the revolution and that agents and reactionaries, no matter how tyrannical or oppressive, will, in relying on their masters, undoubtedly lose at the end of the battle.

I consider the popular Iranian revolution to be an important historic turning point and I see its transformations are leading to results not foreseeable by the United States and its agents in the area.

I reconfirm our continuing alliance with you against colonialism, Zionism and reactionaryism and I express the pride of the Arab nation in your revolution. I appreciate without limit your historic stand, which turned Iran from a state in the service of the United States, the Israelis and the racists in South Africa, to a state which places its weight alongside the Palestinian and Lebanese people in their struggle against Zionism, alongside the Arab peoples in their struggle against the United States and its allies in the area; and alongside the nations struggling against their executioners and enslavers.

Our revolutionary alliance has enabled the patriotic Lebanese forces to expel the Atlantic forces of occupation and to make them leave, trailing defeat and disgrace, returning to the sea like fish, and to make the unsuccessful Ronald Reagan lose control of his collapsing nerves and behave like a corward who does not enter the battle except with a long stick. He is afraid to confront us on Lebanese soil and he tries to hit us with his long stick — *the New Jersey — from the sea, but we are resolved to reaffirm* our alliance and to continue the battle until we are respected on our soil and live in peace.

Eternity to the martyrs of the revolution! Let us go forward! The struggle continues until victory!

With my good wishes for your good health and long life.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Rome Assassination Blamed on 'Arafat 'Gang'

LD102157 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Brother 'Ammar Daww at-Taqqazi, secretary of the popular committee of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome, died this morning at Umberto Primi hospital as a result of wounds received in a criminal act of assassination on 21 January, in Rome. Terrorist elements opened fire on the brother secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau outside his house in Rome. All reports confirm that these criminal elements belong to Yasir 'Arafat and his gang.

MAURITANIA

Ould Haydala Sends Condolences to Soviets

LD102133 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, addressed the following cable to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the occasion of the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov:

With regret I have learned the loss of Chairman Andropov. On this painful occasion, in the name of the Mauritanian people and its Military Committee for National Salvation and its government, and myself personally, I would like you to convey to the people and government of the USSR our condolences and sympathy. History will record that the famous deceased did not spare any effort — during the brief period in which he directed the events in his country — in establishing international peace and security and developing cooperation with Third World countries.

Highest regards,
Lt. Col. Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala

MOROCCO

Egypt's Mubarak Concludes Talks, Departs

LD101429 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Rabat, Feb 10 (MAP) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak left here Friday morning after a three-day working visit to Morocco during which he held a series of talks with King Hassan II of Morocco, chairman of the fourth Islamic summit recently held in Casablanca.

According to Mr. Ousama el Baz, director of the presidential cabinet for political affairs and a member of the delegation accompanying the Egyptian head of state, Mubarak's visit to Morocco took place at the invitation of King Hassan II in the wake of the visit to Cairo of an Islamic commission led by Guinean President Haj Ahmed Sekou Toure. This commission was set up by the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca for the return of Egypt to the Islamic Conference Organization — (ICO).

During his stay in Rabat, the Egyptian head of state discussed with King Hassan II the return of Egypt to the ICO, the Palestinian cause and the latest developments in the situation in Lebanon.

On Thursday evening, the Moroccan monarch hosted a dinner banquet in honor of the Egyptian president and the delegation accompanying him.

Mubarak's visit to Morocco is the first made by the Egyptian leader to an Arab country since he became president after the assassination of the late Anwar as-Sadat, and also the first (with the exception of Sudan) since the signing of the Camp David accord in 1978.

Leaves for Paris

LD101437 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpt] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Rabat this morning for Paris where he will be meeting with President Mitterrand prior to his departure to the United States to meet with President Ronald Reagan. The president of Arab Egypt was seen off at the Sale Airport by Crown Prince Sidi Mohammad and Minister of Royal Palaces and Protocols and Medals General Moulay Hafiz Alaoui.

SUDAN

Army Reportedly Repels 'Outlaw' Attack at Camp

JN111017 Khartoum SUNA in English 0950 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Feb (SUNA) — A large attack by the outlaws against the Sobat camp of the company digging the Jonglei canal was defeated by the Armed Forces at 5 a.m. yesterday announced an official source here yesterday. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the outlaws. Ethiopian and Libyan soldiers with their brown colours were spotted among those slain, he said. It seems that the Libyans are from the Fazan area, a matter that confirms earlier available reports, he announced. Several Ethiopian and Libyan elements have been arrested, he added.

Meanwhile, foreign employees at the camp were evacuated by a ferryboat to Malakal and then boarded a plane to Khartoum, but seven foreign employees are still missing, and the Armed Forces are searching for them, he said. It is understood that the Armed Forces are in full control of the situation and are conducting fierce operations against the outlaws, who came from Ethiopia in the last few weeks, accompanied by some Ethiopian and Libyan soldiers.

Numayri Sends Condolences on Andropov Death

JN111913 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Feb (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today sent a cable of condolence to the members of the Soviet Supreme Council on the death of the secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party and chairman of the Supreme Council, Yuriy Andropov.

Delegation Departs for Funeral

JN121641 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Feb (SUNA) — Badr ad-Din Sulayman, first secretary of the SSU central leadership, this morning left for Moscow at the head of a Sudanese delegation that will participate in the funeral of the late Soviet President Yuriy Andropov.

Seeing off the delegation at Khartoum airport, the Soviet ambassador to Sudan expressed his thanks to and appreciation for Sudan-leadership, government, and people for sending a political-level delegation to participate in Andropov's funeral and to extend condolences to the Soviet leadership. He added that this high-level participation would win the appreciation of the Soviet leadership and the Soviet people.

Badr ad-Din Sulayman expressed his thanks to his excellency the ambassador for showing his friendly feelings, asserting Sudan's concern about strengthening ties of friendship with all peoples and with the Soviet people in the service of stability and peace in the world, the Arab region, and the African Continent.

Egypt's Ghali Returns Briefly to Khartoum

JN102226 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Khartoum this evening at the end of his mission in Ethiopia and Djibouti where he had delivered messages from President Mubarak to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam and to Djibouti's President Hassan Gouled. President Numayri is expected to receive Dr Ghali, who will inform him about the results of his tours of Ethiopia and Djibouti. Dr Ghali will also meet with Sudanese Vice President 'Umar at-Tayyib tomorrow.

Upon his arrival at the airport, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs said that his visits to Ethiopia and Djibouti dealt with the preparations for the African ministerial conference which will convene in Addis Ababa at the end of this month. The conference will discuss several African issues, particularly the issue of Western Sahara, Chad, and Namibia.

In his statement, Dr Butrus Ghali said: We seek to render this African ministerial conference a success, as its success will contribute to safeguarding the OAU's unity which has recently faced many obstacles. We also seek to make the African summit conference — which will convene in Conakry next June — a success.

On whether during his tours of Ethiopia and Djibouti his talks dealt with the current tension between Ethiopia and Sudan, Dr Ghali said: The objective of Egyptian diplomacy is to settle disputes through peaceful means.

Meets With Numayri, Departs

JN111148 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri received today Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. Dr Ghali briefed the Sudanese president on the results of his visits to Ethiopia and Djibouti.

Before departing, Dr Butrus Ghali met with Sudanese First Vice President Major General 'Umar at-Tayyib and Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani. Dr Butrus Ghali stated that the objective of his consultations and meetings with Sudanese officials is to coordinate and prepare for the meeting of the African foreign ministers, to be held in Addis Ababa at the end of February, which is being organized to help in the success of the African summit to be held in Conakry.

Dr Ghali arrived in Khartoum yesterday from Djibouti.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Sends Condolences on Andropov Death

LD101753 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Feb 84

[President Habib Bourguiba's cable of condolences on death of Yuriy Andropov]

[Text] I have received with deep sorrow the news of the death of Yuriy Andropov, the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The death of Yuriy Andropov constitutes a premature departure from the political arena for a great statesman, who will be remembered by the Soviet people and the international community as the leader of a great country, who helped bolster the economic progress of his country and the safeguarding of peaceful coexistence and world peace through consultations and dialogue.

At these painful moments, I convey in my name and the name of the people and government of Tunisia, our most sincere condolences and profound sympathy to members of the Supreme Soviet, and the friendly Soviet people and the family of the deceased.

[Signed] Habib Bourguiba, President of the Tunisian Republic

Mzali Comments on Security, Party Role, Prices

LD122338 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Report on interview given by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali to *L'ACTION*, organ of the Destourian Socialist Party, published on 12 February]

[Excerpt] Concerning the recent measures taken to reorganize the Interior Ministry organs, Mr Mohamed Mzali said that the policy we are formulating today [words indistinct] does not at all aim at making the security forces into special groups to combat (? agitation) or to enable them to open fire at will. Basically, it concerns competent action, a return to the sound concept of administrative organization and harmonious continuity, dynamism and coordination of work, and lastly, special and clear instructions that must be implemented in full.

The prime minister added that we have never thought that the club, the iron and the roar of tanks can form true security. But, as the great combatant has taught us, the best safeguards for the future lie in the confidence of the people and in the persistent work we are engaged in to ensure the development of our country and realize balanced prosperity and growth.

Speaking about democracy, Mr Mohamed Mzali observed that some people have been violating the law. When we remind them of the provisions of the law, they become angry and they see in this an encroachment on freedom. (?They seem to overlook) that the anarchist way of practicing freedom is not without dangers which might sometime lead to the death of freedom itself. What we must tell everyone here is that democracy is a collective and gradual action. To describe the act of implementing the law as oppression and injustice tends to strengthen the enemies of freedom, particularly in countries where the democratic experiment is just beginning.

The prime minister affirmed that there is no going back on the democratic process and that the planned increases for 1984 as far as bread and other grain byproducts are concerned will be nominal. The increase will basically be on wines, spirits, tobacco, and some fuels and luxury goods. He noted that the increase in fuel prices will not cover petrol and gas, nor the methylated spiritused for domestic purposes. These materials are consumer goods and the government is eager to back the price regulation policy to check inflation.

Mzali, on the other hand, affirmed that though they may have some drawbacks, the party militants have played their role in full. They succeeded in their counteraction against those who were fanning agitation in many places. He observed that it is not conceivable to say that the party is at a crossroads, because we are militants who have been trained in the Bourguiba school and we do not believe in the existence of deadends or in the need to reverse our choices.

ETHIOPIA

Sudan Accused of 'Brutal' Acts Against Consulate
NC101633 Paris AFP in English 1607 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Feb 10 (AFP) — A well-placed Ethiopian Government source today accused the Sudanese authorities of "ghastly and brutal" acts against Ethiopian diplomats at an Ethiopian Consulate in the eastern Sudanese town of Kassala.

The Ethiopian Government had asked the authorities in Khartoum to take "appropriate steps to discipline" the Sudanese Army soldiers involved in the incident, the source said. The source declined to give any further details of the attack, notably when it occurred or if there were casualties.

The Sudanese attack referred to appeared to be in retaliation for the alleged storming by some 350 Ethiopian militiamen of the Sudanese Consulate at Gambela in western Ethiopia last Sunday, in which Khartoum said three consular workers had been killed and an unspecified number wounded.

The Ethiopian source today replied by saying that the Sudanese Consular compound had been attacked by Sudanese refugees living in Gambela and that the allegation of Ethiopian involvement was "a complete fabrication". He said the only casualty in Sunday's incident was an Ethiopian citizen on guard duty at the consulate.

The source did not explain why the Sudanese refugees in Gambela attacked the consulate. But an estimated 20,000 of them are in the area, having fled violence in south Sudan since last June.

Ethiopian police and security had now taken the necessary measures and brought the situation in Gambela under control, the source said. He added: "Although the incident at the Sudanese Consulate in Gambela is unfortunate and inexcusable, this is no justification for the ghastly and brutal steps taken against Ethiopian diplomats by the Sudanese Army in Kassala".

Relations between Khartoum and Addis Ababa have gone from bad to worse ever since the influx of the southern Sudanese refugees started. The Sudan has repeatedly since then accused Ethiopia and Libya of training and arming southern Sudanese dissidents for hostile acts against the Khartoum Government.

Ethiopia has dismissed these accusations as "baseless and outrageous insinuations", saying the Sudanese authorities were blaming Ethiopia for problems of their own making.

TPLF: 25 Government Soldiers Killed in Ambushes
EA122048 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1315 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] The heroic guerilla fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front ambushed enemy convoys moving from (Werhat) to the surrounding regions on 1 January, moving from Sink'at'a to Meke'le on the 17th, from Adwa to (Enchecho) on the 21st, and from Meke'le to Hagere Selam on 31 January. They killed a total of 25 soldiers, wounded 24, and captured 2 soldiers and large quantities amounts of enemy property. A lieutenant and a major were among those killed.

EPLF: 11 Killed in Attack on Ethiopian Force 7 Feb
EA101608 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Summary] EPLF forces attacked an Ethiopian force moving from Dekemhare to (Wekesh) on 7 February, killing 11 soldiers, wounding 23, and capturing 1 soldier and two Kalashnikov rifles.

SOMALIA

DFSS Forces Claim Police Station Overrun 9 Feb
EA112020 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Summary] On 9 February, the Ninth General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces launched a surprise attack on the police station at (Ber Gadid) village in Belet Uen District, Hiran Region.

The DFSS fighters overran the station, destroying a large quantity of arms and ammunition. The police force personnel stationed there were either killed or wounded or fled into the countryside. The DFSS fighters returned safely to base.

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Visits Italy, Attends Ceremony

For Italian reportage on Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim's visit to Italy, including his attendance at a ceremony during which an Italian petition calling for the release of South African political prisoners was presented, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 13 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

UGANDA

Obote Expresses Country's Condolences to USSR
EA122133 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] President Obote has paid tribute to the late president of the Soviet Union, Yuriy Andropov, for his devoted efforts to the service of his country and to the cause of international peace and security.

In a message of condolence to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, President Obote said: On behalf of the Ugandan Peoples Congress, the Government and the people of Uganda, and on my own behalf, I extend to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics our deep condolences and sympathy on the sad occasion of the death of His Excellency Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The late Yuriy Andropov devoted his life to the service of his country and to the cause of international peace and security. His death is all the more poignant as it comes at a time when there is increasing tension among nations and at a time when his clear and foresighted statesmanship was most required. During his brief but memorable period as general secretary and chairman of the Presidium, Yuriy Andropov constantly and tirelessly put forward perfect and practical proposals aimed at reducing international tension and promoting peace and understanding among the community of nations. During the time of the late Yuriy Andropov, Soviet-Uganda relations improved tremendously for the mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Andropov Funeral Delegation Named

EA122106 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Uganda will be represented at the funeral of the late USSR President Yuriy Andropov by a high-powered delegation led by the Prime Minister Mr Otema Alimadi. The delegation which leaves for the Soviet Union tomorrow includes the Secretary-General of UPC [Uganda People's Congress] and Minister of Internal Affairs Dr Luwuliza-Kirunda; the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Picho Owiny; Col Maluru from General Headquarters, UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army], and the director of Eastern Europe in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr (Okog Oi).

Obote Calls for Party Unity at UPC Joint Meeting

AB111428 Dakar PANA in English 1349 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Kampala, 11 Feb (UNA/PANA) — President Milton Obote of Uganda has urged the Uganda People's Congress (UPC) to remain united as a party because it is that unity that will spread to other people who are not UPC.

The president was speaking at the closing of a three-day joint meeting of the National Council, the Central Executive Committee, and the Parliamentary Group of the ruling Uganda People's Congress in Kampala.

Dr. Obote called on the delegates to show the other parties that they are determined to reconcile and rehabilitate the country for the benefit of all. Dr. Obote informed them that the revised recovery programme was attempting to heal the wounds of the past so that what was called a peculiar situation in Uganda becomes a matter of the past. He said it was also attempting, alongside other nations of the world, to fight the global recession.

The president advised them to talk to the farmers so that when inputs come, they are ready to use them. In this respect he urged them to go and mobilize the people so that the country moves out of the period of rehabilitation into one of development.

Dr. Obote called on them to condemn corruption in all its forms because (?it is a) bad disease which should not enter the country's body politic. He assured them that he will not allow the politics of patronage to enter into the cabinet and charged them not to allow traders and others to tempt people in authority. The president advised the delegates to work more closely with public servants and to sit down and discuss with them problems whenever they arise.

The meeting resolved to commit all members of the party to take active participation in the implementation of the revised recovery programme 1982-84. The meeting also condemned banditry activities and indiscriminate and wanton killings as well as the abduction of persons for whatever reason or motivation by any group of people or individual.

The delegates also resolved that an appropriate monument be erected in the memory of the Maj. Gen. David Oyite-Ojok, whom they described as a national hero, and those who died with him in the helicopter crash during the first week of [word indistinct].

Obote Receives Interim OAU Secretary General Onu

EA111621 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] President Obote has received the acting secretary-general of the OAU, Dr Peter Onu. The meeting took place at Kampala International Conference Center this morning.

The president and the acting secretary-general discussed matters of current concern to the OAU.

Talks Held With Gabon on Cooperation Ties

AB111421 Dakar PANA in English 1355 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Kampala, 11 Feb (UNA/PANA) — Uganda and Gabon have held a bilateral meeting aimed at bringing about closer cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting which was held in Kampala on Friday was chaired by Uganda's minister of regional cooperation, Mr. Sam Tewungwa. The minister revealed that the two governments had agreed to formulate the most effective way of strengthening cooperation and by signing a cooperation agreement and establishing a commission of cooperation.

Mr. Tewungwa said that Uganda and Gabon will hold another joint meeting soon in Libreville, Gabon.

The Gabonese delegation was led by vice prime minister and [words indistinct]. Other members were Mr. Okumba, political and diplomatic adviser to the president of Gabon, and Mrs. Yolande Bike.

CHAD

GUNT's Goukouni, Kamougue Return From Tripoli

AB102035 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Comrades Goukouni Oueddei and Kamougue Wadal Abdelkader, respectively president and vice president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], have returned home after a friendly visit to Tripoli. In the Libyan capital, the Chadian officials held talks with the Libyan authorities [words indistinct]. It is known that recently, following the aggression of the French Air Force, the GUNT in fact called on the Libyan Jamahiriyah to stand by it in the field. The visit of the GUNT president and vice president coincided with the arrival in the Libyan capital of Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations and special emissary of President Francois Mitterrand.

In addition, another GUNT delegation which has just visited France and was led by Comrade (Mahmat Abdou Seid), the former minister of interior, has returned home. It included Comrades (Tasso Valas), former minister of posts and telecommunications, and (Che Alao Tahir), former speaker of the National Assembly.

The GUNT delegation was received at the Elysee Palace as well as by officials of the French Communist and Socialist parties.

CONGO

French Presidential Adviser Guy Penne Visits

AB111052 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Guy Penne, French presidential adviser in charge of African affairs, has been visiting our country since yesterday evening. Today he was received in audience by the head of state, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. After the audience, Guy Penne spoke to the press [passage indistinct].

Vietnamese Envoy Speaks on CPV Anniversary

AB101015 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] The Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] is 54 years old today. Here in Brazzaville, this 54th anniversary of the CPV gave the highest organ of the party the opportunity to organize a conference. It was also an opportunity for His Excellency (Hoang Hoan Manh), Vietnamese ambassador to Congo, to give details on the present situation of the Vietnamese people and to take stock of the relations between the CPV and the Congolese Labor Party [PCT]. David (Koussilissa) has the report:

[Begin recording] [(Hoang)] Concerning imperialism, we have already defeated American and French imperialists. According to our president of the Republic, nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. It is in this spirit that we have defeated imperialists. Now we have to face a complex war. There are [words indistinct] of the expansionists in conjunction with the imperialists and world reactionaries.

[(Koussilissa)] Can we have an idea of the present state of the relations between the CPV and the PCT?

[(Hoang)] I am very happy to come to Congo at a moment when very good prospects in relations of friendship and cooperation are taking shape between the two parties — the CPV and the PCT — as well as between our two peoples and our two governments. [end recording]

GABON

Bongo Receives SMC Delegation, Buhari Message

AB101726 Dakar PANA in French 1220 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Libreville, 10 Feb (AGP/PANA) — On Thursday morning in Libreville, El Hadj Omar Bongo, head of state of Gabon, received a delegation of the Supreme Military Council of Nigeria, which has been in power since the overthrow of President Shagari on 31 December 1983.

The delegation, led by Brigadier General Mohamed Nasco, delivered a personal message from Nigerian Head of State Gen Buhari to President Bongo. Sources close to the Presidency of the Republic say that this message is on the recent events that led to a change in government in Nigeria and which brought the military to power under the leadership of Gen Buhari.

One may note that it is the first time that members of the Nigerian Supreme Military Council have visited Gabon since they came into power at the beginning of the year.

Bongo Receives French Presidential Adviser Guy Penne

AB121011 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Head of State His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo yesterday held discussions with Guy Penne, the French president's adviser on African affairs, at Renovation Palace. After the discussions Mr Penne told the press that he brought to the Gabonese head of state a message from his French counterpart. He specified that it was a friendly message. During their discussions which lasted 3 and 1/2 hours, Mr Bongo and Mr Penne also reviewed political issues relating especially to Africa and more particularly relations between France and Gabon.

"Our relations are excellent," said Mr Penne, who is the first French official received by President Bongo after his recent interview with Radio France Internationale. On this issue, Mr Penne stated that the head of state's two previous interviews with some French press agencies were favorably received in France. Finally, President Mitterrand's adviser said that his visit to Libreville falls within the framework of an African tour which has already taken him to Sierra Leone, the People's Republic of Congo, and the Ivory Coast.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Sends Condolence Message on Andropov's Death

AB111420 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1031 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 10 Feb (AZAP) — MPR Founding Chairman President Mobutu Sese Seko has sent a message of condolences to Vasiliy Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on the occasion of the death of USSR President Yuriy Andropov. The message reads as follows:

Mr Deputy Chairman, it is with profound emotion that Zaire's Executive Council and myself learned of the death of His Excellency Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and general secretary of the CPSU.

On behalf of all men and women militants of the MPR, our party-state, and on my own behalf, I extend my most sincere condolences to the people of the USSR and to the family of the distinguished deceased. During his tenure of office, we noted with satisfaction the exchange of visits by Soviet and Zairian officials aimed at strengthening and promoting our relations of cooperation. At a period of grave tension in the world, President Andropov's mandate was marked by noteworthy initiatives in the field of disarmament, notably within the framework of the strategic arms limitation talks.

With his death, the world has lost one of the most outstanding politicians of our era. I hope that in spite of this painful trial for the Soviet Government and people, the USSR will continue to contribute to maintaining world peace and security in the well-understood interest of all nations of the world.

Highest regards,

Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Nebendu Wa Za Banga, MPR founding chairman and president of the Republic of Zaire.

Government Denies Training Angolan Rebels

AB101300 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Republic of Zaire is not training Angolan rebels. This is a clarification as well as a very clear denial. This statement was authoritatively made by Citizen Nyiwa Mobutu, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, who yesterday received Angolan Charge d'Affaires Caspar dos Santos. The secretary of state for foreign affairs expressed to him the concern of the Executive Council over reports by some Angolan news media that elements hostile to the Luanda government were being trained in Zaire.

A communique issued by the bureau of the secretary of state for foreign affairs indicates that the *JORNAL DE ANGOLA* has reported that three of these elements captured by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola during the retaking of the town of (Luao) had declared that they had been trained in Zaire by Israeli instructors.

The Executive Council not only rejects this accusation and allegation completely but also reiterates to international public opinion Zaire's determination, often expressed by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic, to maintain friendly, fraternal, and good-neighborly relations with all the neighboring countries. The most recent example, stresses the communique issued by the bureau of the secretary of state for foreign affairs, was the joint Zairian-Egyptian communique issued on 2 February at the end of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Kinshasa, in which the Republic of Zaire declared its solidarity with the frontline governments and countries, including Angola.

For his part, the Angolan charge d'affaires promised our secretary of state that he would furnish him with ample details after consultations with his government.

GHANA

Rawlings Sends Condolence Message to Soviet People

AB121346 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, who is on a visit to Upper Volta, has sent a message of condolence from Ouagadougou to the Soviet people on the death of Mr Andropov. The government has declared 3 days of mourning from today until the burial of the Soviet leader on Tuesday.

GUINEA

Prime Minister Beavogui Leads Delegation to Moscow

AB121143 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0915 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Comrade Dr Lansana Beavogui, member of the National Political Bureau, prime minister, and minister of planning and statistics, presented to the USSR ambassador in Conakry the sincere condolences and sympathy of our people, our party, and of President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the supreme leader of the revolution and our leader.

In his note of condolence the prime minister wrote: On behalf of the Central Committee of the Guinean Democratic Party, on behalf of President Sekou Toure, the secretary general of our party, and on behalf of the entire Guinean people, I present to the friendly and militant people of the Soviet Union, their Central Committee, and their government our sincere condolences. We are deeply touched by the cruel loss of President Yuriy Andropov, a man of peace and one of the most eminent political leaders of our century.

The image that he has left behind will serve all future generations as a model of wisdom, foresight, and true solidarity among the peoples of the world. Glory to this great man whom we have lost. May he rest in peace.

It is worth noting that the prime minister, who is at the head of an important official delegation, left our capital yesterday for Moscow to attend the funeral of this illustrious man.

LIBERIA

Head of State Doe Sends Condolence Message to USSR

AB121345 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] African leaders have been sending messages of condolence to the Soviet Union following the death of President Andropov. Commander in Chief Doe of Liberia in his message described Mr Andropov as an illustrious son and outstanding leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, and a staunch fighter for the advent of permanent world peace.

On this mournful occasion, the head of state says, the Government of the People's Redemption Council joins me in expressing to you and through you to the Government and people of the USSR the most profound condolences for the irreparable loss which their great country has sustained.

MALI

Traore Sends Condolences on Andropov Demise

AB102052 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, General Moussa Traore, sent a message of condolences today to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union:

It was with great affliction that we learned of the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the party and head of state. The Malian people, their party, the Democratic Union of Malian People, their government, and myself [words indistinct] with their friends of the Soviet Union who are in deep distress. In these painful circumstances, we address to you our condolences and ask you to convey to the family of the deceased our sincere sympathy. While renewing our entire readiness to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries, accept the expression of my highest and friendliest regards. [signed] Gen Moussa Traore

Delegation Departs for Moscow

AB121320 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Mohamed Ag Hammani and Alioune Blondin Beye, secretary for external relations of the Central Executive Bureau and the minister of foreign affairs, respectively, left for Moscow last night via Dakar. They are expected to arrive in the Soviet capital today.

NIGERIA

Yamani on 'Preferential Treatment' by OPEC

AB101248 Lagos NAN in English 1225 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Ikeja, Feb 10 (NAN) — The Saudi oil minister, Shaykh Zaki Yamani, said in Lagos yesterday that Nigeria should be given a preferential treatment by the OPEC if it pressed for an increase in its production quota of 1.3 million barrles per day.

He told newsmen at Murtala Mohammed International Airport shortly on arrival for a one-day private visit that he believed that "Nigeria should have special treatment for obvious reasons." The minister promised to canvass for support for Nigeria's demand if put forward. He added, however, that the issue of production quota was a sensitive and purely internal issue of OPEC, adding that it was better discussed behind closed doors.

Mr Yamani predicted an increase of over two million barrels daily in OPEC output this year. The economic recovery in the

United States brought about an increase in demand for OPEC oil in the third and fourth quarters of last year, the minister said.

Mr Yamani said that Saudi Arabia's decision to stockpile excess oil aboard oil tankers was to comply with the OPEC production quota and to meet its domestic requirements.

The Saudi oil minister said that it would be disastrous for Nigeria to pull out of OPEC. He added that it was possible for Nigeria to increase its production level to two million barrels daily and sell at 25 dollars a barrel. Such initial gains, he warned, would be neutralised by a price war that would be instigated by other producers of similar grades of oil both within and outside the OPEC.

Nigeria is currently making moves to press for an increase of its 1.3 million barrels per day OPEC ceiling to 2 million barrels daily as a way of easing its present economic problem.

French Envoy Brings Buhari Message From Mitterrand

AB102130 Lagos NAN in English 1812 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NAN) — The head of the Federal Military Government, Maj.-Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, today in Lagos received a special message from President Francois Mitterrand of France. The message was delivered by the French ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Michael Drumetz, at Dodan Barracks. The contents of the message were not known.

Finance Minister Soleye on Negotiations With IMF

AB102125 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of finance, Dr Soleye, said the issue of the conditions demanded by the International Monetary Fund, IMF, for granting loans to Nigeria had been overdramatized. He told newsmen in Lagos today that most of the conditions could be met and that consensus had in fact been reached on some of them while negotiations were continuing.

The minister disclosed that if the negotiations succeeded, Nigeria would get about 2.4 billion naira. Dr Soleye therefore appealed to the news media not to portray the IMF as a monster trying to swallow Nigeria. He said negotiations were in progress with foreign creditors to refinance the short-term trade arrears. Dr Soleye explained that during the negotiations, attempts were made by the creditors to make the outcome of the IMF loan a precondition for the refinancing agreement. He stated that the Nigerian delegation, however, put up convincing arguments, after which it was agreed that the two negotiations should continue.

Idiagbon on Money 'Salted Away' by Former Leaders

AB101905 Lagos NAN in English 1700 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NA) — A former civilian governor of Anambra, Chief Jim Nwobodo, salted away about 3.1 million naira in two accounts with the African Continental Bank in Enugu, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, said today.

Briefing media executives at Dodan Barracks, Brig. Idiagbon said that three UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] ex-governors, Chiefs Bola Ige, Michael Ajasin and Bisi Onabanjo, received kickbacks totaling N2.8 million from Bouygues Ltd. and Shgte Dawodo and Co which were awarded a N28 million contract. Brig Idiagbon said that the ex-governors had admitted receiving the money and that efforts were being made to retrieve it from them.

Brig Idiagbon said the the former governor of Rivers, Chief Melford Okilo, owned two companies, Melok Investments and Data Africa Trade Services,whose accounts contain about 2.8 million dollars, apparently "money from public funds". He said that 232,000 pounds sterling was also found with a close [words indistinct] Chief Okilo, [word indistinct].

The chief of staff said that the former chairman and managing director of the Golden Guinea Brewery, Umuahia, Dr Anthony Okafor, [words indistinct] million of public funds. In addition, a former director of the Bendel Breweries, Mr. Fredrick Oroke, is to refund N93,000, Alhaji Abubakar Sakwa, N138,000 and Alex Emeziem, 100,000 pounds sterling.

Public Executions of Armed Robbers To Be Restored

AB102045 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Public execution of convicted armed robbers is to be restored. Answering questions at the briefing of media executives in Lagos today, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said that a decree to that effect was underway.

Gambari: 'Nonviable' Foreign Missions To Be Closed

AB102040 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Nigerian missions abroad which are considered nonviable are to be closed down. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, disclosed this today in Lagos during an interview with a Radio Nigeria correspondent. Dr Gambari said that it was the policy of the present military administration to strengthen the economic and commercial sections of the Nigerian missions. To this end, he said, the government would appoint a separate director general for internal [as heard] economic cooperation and other related matters. The minister told the correspondent that various task forces had been set up to examine Nigeria's relationship with her neighbors and her continued participation in international organizations such as the United Nations and the OAU.

On the ongoing purge at the Ministry of External Affairs, Dr Gambari remarked that it was part of the plan by the government to inject new blood into the ministry. The minister emphasized that the exercise was being carried out with the greatest sense of responsibility in order not to victimize innocent people.

All Movements To Create New States Banned

AB101050 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has banned all state creation movements in the country with effect from 31 December last year. In a statement, the government reminded members of the public that the state movements were proscribed along with the political parties. As a result, activities of any group purporting to be agitating for state creation are illegal.

The statement added that the accounts of all the state creation movements were frozen and property belonging to them forfeited to the Federal Military Government. The Nigerian police force has been directed to seize any of the vehicles belonging to state movements found plying the roads and take other appropriate action against the movements. Functionaries of the movements were also warned that they would be held responsible for any discrepancy discovered between the recorded property of the movements as of 31 December last year and what the police could find at the local level.

All Private Universities To Be Abolished

AB101922 Lagos NAN in English 1820 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NAN) — All private universities in the country are to be abolished and a decree to that effect is being promulgated by the Federal Military Government, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, said today in Lagos.

Brig Idiagbon said that the Federal Government had also banned the establishment of private universities in the "foreseeable future." He said that with regard to the minimum cost requirements of establishing and running a university, the government was satisfied that it was "clearly not in the public interest to allow these mushroom universities to continue to exist."

Brig Idiagbon said that from the projected cost of education in the next five years, "no private person can honestly claim that he has funds to establish and run a university."

"Private enterpreneurs, if allowed, are likely to turn higher education into commercial ventures to the detriment of unsuspecting students and the image of Nigeria in the international labour market," he said.

The chief of staff said that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board would assist in the transfer of students who might be affected by the decision to accredited universities and other institutions of higher learning within the country.

He warned that anyone who established a university after the promulgation of the decree "would be exposing himself to appropriate penalties".

SMC Retires 116 Senior Foreign Ministry Officials

AB101601 Lagos NAN in English 1555 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, today confirmed the compulsory retirement of 116 senior officials of the ministry.

Speaking to newsmen in his office, Dr Gambari said that the officers were retired on the orders of the Supreme Military Council, using the criteria of "effectiveness, previous disciplinary record and public interest". He said that the retirement was designed to strengthen the ministry and make it more effective in the discharge of "its onerous tasks". The minister said that the measure should be seen as part of the reorganisation exercise going on in the ministry. Other measures, the minister said, include the appointment of a permanent secretary for the entire ministry and setting up of a task force to re-examine its operations.

A source told a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that those retired included ambassadors, high commissioners, directors and deputy directors of departments.

Dr Gambari said that the ministry would establish a separate directorate for international economic cooperation and related matters. "The entire foreign missions will be rationalized so that where the benefits derived do not justify the cost of maintenance, they will have to be closed down," he said.

The minister added that the economic and commercial sections of each foreign mission would be strengthened to assist in the enhancement of Nigeria's economy. "We must re-orientate our diplomatic and foreign relations to serve our domestic and international needs," he added.

Idiagbon: At Least 280 Persons Detained in 13 States

AB101720 Lagos NAN in English 1712 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NAN) — At least 280 persons from 13 of the 19 states are being detained in various parts of the country, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, announced today in Lagos.

Briefing media executives, Brig Idiagbon said that 81 persons were being held at the Kirikiri Maximum Security Prison, Lagos, and that 21 detainees were being held in Anambra, five in Bendel, nine in Benue, 32 in Borno, and 16 in Cross River. Others are: Gongola 21, Imo 3, Kaduna 25, Plateau 19 and Lagos one. Kano, Kwara and Sokoto have 16 detainees each.

Brig Idiagbon said that the figures for Niger, Ondo, Ogun, Oyo, Rivers and Bauchi were still being compiled.

FMG Declares Former Minister Essang 'Wanted Person'

AB101850 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has declared Mr Sunday Essang a wanted person. Mr Essang was a minister under the civilian administration. A government statement in Lagos today warned that anybody found harboring the former minister will be severely punished.

FMG: 'No Intention' of Rescinding Ojukwu Pardon

AB101630 Lagos NAN in English 1540 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 10 (NAN) — The Federal Military Government has no intention of rescinding the pardon granted the Ikemba of Nnewi, Chief Emeka Ojukwu, by the last civilian administration. Disclosing this at a meeting he held for media executives in Lagos, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig. Tunde Idiagbon, said that Chief Ojukwu was being detained pending the completion of investigations into the activities of the Ikemba Front.

Brig Idiagbon said that besides allegations made against members of the front for their activities during the last elections, some of them were found carrying arms during a search on Chief Ojukwu's residence after the military takeover.

The chief of staff said that the Ikemba would also have to account for party funds he handled during the last elections.

Country To Reduce Food Imports, Stress Self-Reliance

AB111425 Lagos NAN in English 1410 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb. 11 (NAN) — Nigeria is to reduce food importation as a step toward self-reliance, the minister of national planning, Chief Michael Adigun, said yesterday.

Chief Adigun told a news conference in Lagos that Nigeria spent 896 million naira last year on importation of food items, saying that 148 million naira of it was spent on rice. He said that government had shifted its priority to agriculture and production of raw materials to conserve the country's exchange reserves.

The minister said, however, that the reduction of food importation would be gradual and that unforeseen contingencies such as drought, rinder pest and other ecological factors would be considered.

Chief Adigun said that the World Bank was helping Nigeria in oil palm production and that the bank had drawn up a program for a large oil palm plantation. The minister said that Federal Military Government would release 4 million naira to the National Electric Power Authority every month to import spare parts and put its power stations in full use. The minister said that the country could not depend on hydro-electric power supply alone and that it would re-order its priorities to include provision for gas power stations.

He added that government would speed up work on escravos and forcados gas and liquefied natural gas projects as well as other petro-chemical schemes.

Idiagbon Urges Press To Be 'More Objective'

AB111045 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Various sums of money have been recovered from detained politicians. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, made this known in Lagos yesterday when he addressed media executives.

On the press, the chief of staff recalled his earlier appeal to journalists to be more objective. But contrary to expectation, some of the papers had continued to publish information capable of creating confusion in the minds of the people. He declared: At this point in time, I would only repeat that we expect this change — respect for facts and appreciation of our stated objectives. Brig Idiagbon criticized the reproduction of statements of some wanted politicians in national newspapers.

He told the media executives that various consignments of essential commodities were being expected at the various ports in the country. These include baby milk worth over 30 million naira; sugar, 34 million naira; and rice estimated at 69 million naira.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Sends Condolences on Andropov's Death

AB111125 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Message of condolence sent by Captain Thomas Sankara, head of state, to the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet following the death of Yuriy Andropov on 9 February 1984]

[Text] Following the bereavement of your country through the tragic death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the general secretary of the CPSU, on behalf of the revolutionary people of Upper Volta, their National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and government, and on my own behalf, I assume the sad responsibility to express to you our heartfelt condolences.

The loss of this illustrious freedom fighter should further strengthen our revolutionary faith and vigilance around the ideals of peace and justice. We sincerely ask you to extend to the people of the USSR and the bereaved family our deepest condolences.

[Signed] Capt Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR and the head of state of the Republic of Upper Volta

Rawlings Arrives, Holds Press Conference With Sankara

AB101545 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Comrade Jerry John Rawlings, the Ghanaian president, arrived in our country this morning where he was accorded a rousing welcome at the airport.

Before our editorial commentary on the visit, we would like you now to listen to Flight Lieutenant Rawlings' statement at the VIP lounge in reply to a question asked by our colleague Comrade Serge Theophile Balima.

[Begin recording — all answers in English followed by French translation — processed from English] [Balima] Comrade Chairman, the Upper Voltan revolutionary press welcomes you to Ouagadougou. What significance do you attach to your visit to Upper Volta?

[Rawlings] I really find it difficult to answer questions like that because I just find ... are you listening? You asked me a question! I would say that such a visit, in the first place, is long overdue. In coming here, I am coming home. A revolutionary process that is seeking justice for the people is taking place here just like for us back in Ghana, and it is an honor. It gives a great deal of pleasure — I feel very much at home — to be here.

Tell him [speaking to the translator], you know, something very tangible is taking place here. I don't know how well our ordinary people see and understand the process that is taking place here. That's what we are pursuing back at home in Ghana too. We are going through very difficult times. But all I can say is that if it was possible to put the next 5 years, the next 7 years on a film to show to our ordinary people to understand the science of what we are going through and what it's going to achieve for us on a screen, they would understand what a revolutionary process means in terms of an equitable distribution of the resources, okay? At least they will be able to compared to the past. For us the 27 years, which has only led to more and more exploitation, led to more and more deprivation. This will not be the same for us as far as the future is concerned. It is a science. We understand it because the act of exploitation is also a science, it's an art, and very often it's very difficult for our very ordinary people to see through it. But I think our people are beginning to understand, and I am hoping that the same thing applies with you here. Because this is what we are asking for in Africa. This is what the mass of our people are asking for. And no matter how much we can achieve in isolation, we can achieve a lot more if we were to tie up our efforts together. Finished?

[Balima] No, sir ... [laughter]

[Rawlings] Just a minute. You see, in a place like Libya, for instance, where they have a lot of oil, it is possible, you know, it's easy for them to be able to demonstrate what revolutionary justice means. Because with the oil money, they can bring in whatever they want and in the process — the distributive process — the people can feel the present from the past, how more equitable the distribution is. If we had the same thing, our people would see it. But here again it is a very long way back home. You know it is not very easy. Our support only lies in the mass. One can only hope and pray that our people understand it.

[Balima] Thank you, sir.

[Question in English by unidentified reporter fading into French translation] In the first place, where do you see the relationship between what is happening here and what is happening in Ghana?

[Sankara] One does not need massive demonstrations to show the nature of the relationship between Ghana and Upper Volta now. As far as the leaders are concerned, contacts have been made and actions have been set up, but what is more important is that at the level of the masses we in Upper Volta believe that the Upper Voltan revolution cannot be maintained and developed without the firm support of the Ghanaian revolution, and the revolution in Ghana cannot develop without relying on the revolution in Upper Volta. That is why at all levels — whether political, economic, or military — we are joining both our experiences and possibilities. We are drifting toward a common thought, a common destiny, and pooling together our wealth, which is an effective way of breaking down the artificial barriers created between Upper Volta and Ghana. Our masses have already destroyed these barriers, and in spite of the existing administrative provisions on borders between Ghana and Upper Volta, our masses pass from one country to the other easily, almost forgetting about these borders, which, incidentally, we the leaders are trying to minimize as much as possible.

[Question in English from unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] the fact that we are an island in a sea of other forms of government that, perhaps, do not agree with your own or that of Ghana, and also foreign disagreement with the process going on here and in all countries?

[Sankara] I will first of all point out a contradiction in the way you put your question. You say Upper Volta and Ghana currently constitute an island in a sea. You are a Ghanaian, and you call me Mr President. No! You should call me comrade, and you will find the answer to your question. The way I react to any aggression or hostility depends on how you Ghanaians as individuals also react. We are struggling together. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Signs USSR Book, Sets Mourning Period

MB130817 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] A 3-day national mourning period, decreed the day before yesterday by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the Republic, is being observed as of 1300 the day before yesterday in homage to Yuriy Andropov, deceased president of the USSR. Until 1300 tomorrow, the last day of the mourning, all public displays and any recreational activities will be closed and the party and the Republic's flags will be at half mast.

The day before yesterday, the head of state visited the Soviet Embassy in Luanda, where he signed a condolence book opened on the occasion of the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, CPSU general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos described Yuriy Andropov as a statesman and distinguished leader of the CPSU and a staunch fighter for peace, liberty, and socialism.

Members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola accompanied the head of state as he paid homage to the Soviet president.

Portugal's Jaime Gama Reviews Meeting With Jorge

LD101455 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese
0001 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama is currently in Luanda en route to Sao Tome and Principe, where he is expected on an official visit tomorrow.

During this important stopover in the Angolan capital Jaime Gama met Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge to clarify a number of issues which were proving to be an obstacle to the normal development of cooperation between Portugal and the People's Republic of Angola.

Speaking at the end of the meeting, Jaime Gama disclosed that some misunderstandings between Luanda and Lisbon had been cleared up. "If there are grains of sand in the machinery of cooperation," the Portuguese foreign minister said, "at least we had the courage to discuss them in a long talk in which we dealt exhaustively with the points of attrition." Jaime Gama also said that he had made several proposals to the Angolan agreement between the central banks of the two countries, an increase in oil purchases from the Angolan market, and the unblocking of agreements in the judicial and health spheres.

Referring to the exclusion of Petrogal [Portuguese state oil company] from an Angolan offshore block where oil exploration is underway, Jaime Gama took the view that this was a decision taken at business and company level and is not viewed as a retaliation, and added that conditions have been created for a significant improvement in relations between Angola and Portugal.

The Portuguese foreign minister will be meeting the Angolan secretary of state for cooperation, today, Friday, before his departure to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, where he is expected for a 4-day official visit.

Ideology Chief Addresses MPLA Control Commission

MB100737 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party Control Commission has been meeting in Luanda since yesterday to assess the activities of the provincial and municipal commissions. The meeting, which will last 3 days, will discuss the rules for the application of party sanctions and assess the relationship between the provincial and municipal control commissions and the mass and social organizations and state organs, as well as the party's controlling role in the defense and security organs.

As stated by Comrade Roberto de Almeida, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for ideology, in the opening session, the meeting is particularly important because it is being held a few months after the second provincial conferences of the MPLA-Labor Party, which reorganized the party provincial committees and the respective control commissions. In his opening address Comrade Roberto de Almeida spoke of the need to discuss and reflect upon the insufficiencies and ineffectiveness in a number of provincial control commissions, as noted during the assessment of party activity over the past 2 years, so that the commissions, which were recently elected during the party provincial conferences, can prevent passiveness and other previously made mistakes.

Referring to the present situation in southern Africa, the secretary of the Party Central Committee for ideology said that the climate of violence and permanent tension in the southern part of our continent is caused by the imperialist desire, particularly of the racist regime of South Africa, to preserve their economic interests. Comrade Roberto de Almeida also spoke of the maneuvers which are designed to destabilize our country, because imperialism fears the formation of a socialist regime so close to the bastion of misery and exploitation — the racist Republic of South Africa — which is the spearhead of international imperialism in this part of the African Continent.

Finally, the secretary of the Party Central Committee for ideology recalled that traitor groups that are armed and financed by the Pretoria racist regime and benefit from its various forms of support have been infiltrated into the Angolan territory, where they sow death and destruction, thus keeping the Angolan people from building a dignified life in freedom.

USSR To Give Medical, Construction Assistance

MB100811 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The USSR will offer medicines to assist in the preventive measures announced by the Angolan authorities due to the calamity caused by the torrential rains which lately have fallen over the city of Luanda. This news was told to our government by Arnold Kalinin, USSR ambassador to Luanda. The Soviet diplomat also revealed that his country will send Angola construction materials, machines, and (?new) road transport equipment necessary to carry out repairs of the damage caused by the torrential rains and to help the residents in affected areas. As part of this Soviet aid to the Angolan people, the Soviet internationalists stationed in our country will collaborate with us toward eliminating the consequences of the calamity, added Arnold Kalinin.

BOTSWANA

Masire, Zambia's Kaunda at Road Opening Ceremony

MB101340 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, this morning attended the official opening of the Nata-Kazungula road, which was performed by the Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda. The ceremony at the four-way junction in Kazangula was also attended by several cabinet ministers from Botswana and Zambia, members of the diplomatic corps, and several government officials. Reports from Kasane said this morning that President Kaunda arrived this morning in Kasane with an entourage of 21, including the Botswana high commissioner to Zambia, Mr Rasebotsa.

The Nata-Kazungula road is expected to boost not only the development of the northeastern Botswana, but will also constitute a major supply link with neighboring Zambia. The completion of the road is regarded internationally as the major achievement in the development of transport and communications within the 9 member states of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. The 300-km road was constructed with funds from the European Economic Community, the Norwegian aid agency, NORAD, the American aid agency, USAID.

An official of the Ministry of Works and Communications told Botswana Press Agency this week that the road was yet another milestone in the government's achievement of its objective of rural development. The road, which took 4 years to complete, was constructed by (COFA) Construction Company.

Opposition Leader Calls on Zimbabwean Envoy To Leave

MB111219 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0940 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Gaborone, Feb 11, SAPA — The Zimbabwean high commissioner to Botswana, Mr A. Chidoda, should return home because of the present poor relationship between the Governments of Botswana and Zimbabwe. This was said by the leader of the opposition Botswana Progressive Union, Mr Daniel Kwele, at a political rally in Gaborone this morning. He said the situation in northern Botswana had worsened, and in spite of established diplomatic relations between the two countries, the Zimbabwean Army continued to invade villages along the border. Mr Kwele blamed the Botswana Government for letting the situation get out of hand and by not taking the Zimbabwean Government to task "for invading our villages, burning huts, killing and abducting our people." According to Mr Kwele, the government was playing a low-key role over the border incidents in northern Botswana. The Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, recently addressed a press conference in Harare blaming Botswana for not cooperating with his government in fighting dissidents.

LESOTHO

King, Jonathon Send Condolence Messages to USSR

MB111230 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] His majesty King Moshoeshoe II has sent a message of condolence to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of the Soviet Socialist Republic on the death of His Excellency Mr Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

In another message to Mr Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of ministers, the right honorable prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, has expressed a deep sense of shock on the death of Mr Andropov, and conveyed on behalf of the government and the people of Lesotho sincere condolences to the family of Mr Andropov, the government, and the people of the USSR.

Meanwhile, the USSR Embassy in Maseru has announced that a book of condolences will be opened on Monday, 13 February; Tuesday, 14 February; and Wednesday, 15 February, from 0900 to 1300.

MADAGASCAR

Government Sets Mourning Period for Andropov

MB130801 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] A delegation of Malagasy revolutionary government officials expressed its condolences at the weekend at the Soviet Embassy in Madagascar at (Anousi). The delegation was led by Lucien Andrianarahinjaka, president of the People's National Assembly and chairman of the Soviet-Malagasy Friendship Association.

The revolutionary government decreed national mourning throughout the national territory until the day of the funeral, which takes place tomorrow at Red Square in Moscow. A commission in charge of the funeral has been set up and is led by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, who is at the same time interim leader of the Soviet state [as heard]. The Central Committee of the CPSU will meet tomorrow to appoint the successor of Yuriy Andropov, the general secretary of the party, who passed away on Thursday.

The appointment of a new general secretary of the CPSU will not immediately lead to a change in the East-West relations. This is the general opinion prevailing in Moscow.

MAURITIUS

Planning Minister Says Sacking Ends Coalition

AB111419 Paris AFP in English 1224 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Port Louis, Feb 11 (AFP) — The leader of the Labour Party of Mauritius, Sir Satcam Boolell, has said he considers that his sacking yesterday as planning and development minister ended the coalition covering the island since last August. Sir Satcam said however that the executive of the Labour Party, due to meet on Tuesday, would decide whether the party would withdraw from the coalition with the Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM) in power since legislative elections on August 21.

The governor-general, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, relieved Sir Satcam of his functions on the advice of Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth, according to the official announcement. Sir Satcam said he did not know the reason for the move. "Since the first day the government was formed, there has been talk of my dismissal," he said.

The Labour Party holds 12 of the 70 seats in parliament. The government coalition has a total of only 46, and the departure of the Labour Party members could thus deprive the government of a majority. However, observers believe that some Labour Party MP's could continue to support the government in any case.

There have been deep differences for some time between the leadership of the Labour Party and some MSM members. A few days ago Harish Boodhoo, leader of the former Socialist Party which last year merged with members of the former Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM) to form the MSM, said that he had had enough of Sir Satcam's political stance.

The Labour Party Executive recently passed a motion which displeased the MSM leadership. This banned the Labour Party from officially entering any political alliance without the agreement of the party, and the MSM felt that decision was directly aimed against it.

But apparently the last straw for the MSM was when Sir Satcam a few days ago convened the representatives of all the trade union confederations, including those close to the opposition, for a review of the political, economic and social situation in the Indian Ocean island.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel To Attend Andropov's Funeral in Moscow

MB120939 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] President Samora Machel leaves Maputo for Moscow today to attend the funeral of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution leads a powerful state and party delegation that includes Joaquim Chissano, secretary for foreign affairs of the Frelimo party Central Committee; Armando Panguene, secretary of the Central Committee; and Carlos Lobo, member of the Central Committee and minister of mineral resources.

Last evening, President Samora Machel signed the book of condolences at the Soviet Embassy in Maputo. Present at the ceremony were members of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo party Central Committee and the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly.

The funeral of the CPSU general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who passed away on Thursday after a long illness, will be held on Tuesday.

Machel Message of Condolence

MB110855 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0430 GMT 11 Feb 84

["Full text" of message by Marshal Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, to the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the occasion of the death of CPSU Chairman Yuriy Andropov; issued in Maputo on 10 February]

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet: It is with deep sorrow and pain that we acknowledge the death of our cherished Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, beloved leader of the Soviet people, and friend of the Mozambique people. People all over the world have lost a great fighter for the peace and progress of humanity, an anti-imperialist combatant who will always be remembered with the tenderness, admiration, and esteem due to a great leader of the cause of the world proletariat. The life of Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov shows the path of a great revolutionary fighter tempered in the toughest class struggles, of a coherent communist who always knew how to raise very high the red flag of socialism in the USSR, and of a leader who wisely used his intelligence and serenity at a time when the aggressiveness of imperialism increasingly showed itself as a permanent menace against humanity's liberation. The Mozambique and Soviet peoples are bound by traditional ties of friendship and solidarity forged in the difficult moments of the struggle for the liberation of the Mozambique people. Relations between the CPSU and Frelimo are marked by a common history of sacrifice, of heroism, and of determination as well as by the common ideology which unites the two parties: Marxism-Leninism.

Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov wisely understood the essence of the history of relations between our two peoples and gained a true dimension of the existing friendship, respect, admiration, and solidarity between the peoples of Mozambique and of the USSR. Many moments of his life testify to his personal contribution toward developing and advancing relations between our peoples. Because of that, the Mozambique people feel great consternation and sorrow over the physical disappearance of

Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, a loyal and sincere friend of our people.

On behalf of the Frelimo Party, of the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly, and of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we address our deepest condolences to the Soviet people, to the CPSU, and to the Supreme Soviet on the death of Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, eminent leader of the Soviet people.

We also convey our sorrow and our condolences to the mourning family.

As in the great moments of the history of the Soviet people, we believe that our comrades will know how to transform this sorrow into renewed strength so as to successfully pursue the ideals of Lenin which Comrade Andropov so wisely represented.

Maputo, 10 February 1984. The struggle continues.

[Signed] Samora Moises Machel, marshal of the Republic, chairman of the Frelimo Party, and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

MNR Chief of General Staff Issues 'War Communique'

MB101900 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 10 Feb 84

["War" communique issued by the chief of General Staff of the Mozambique National Resistance — date and place not given]

[Text] Niassa Province: On 20 January our combatants attacked the Frelimo base at Carronga, Mecanhelas. The enemy was repelled and put to flight after suffering four dead. Our forces captured two AK-47's, two 82-mm mortar shells, and a quantity of other military equipment.

Nampula Province: On 21 December our forces staged an ambush on the Mocuburi-(Nhamateva) road, destroying six vehicles which were carrying FPLM members and supplies to a Frelimo base. On 26 December our guerrillas shelled the Frelimo barracks at Mutivaze, near the Nampula-Ribaue railway line. A total of three FPLM soldiers were killed when Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] combatants destroyed the Frelimo base near the (Meparara) communal village on 28 December. Our forces released all the residents who were being held and enslaved by Frelimo at the village.

During the first 10 days of January our combatants released thousands of people who were being held at the communal villages of (Kapari), (Mula), (Azequela), (Marrula), (Namuisso), (Iapala), and (Mussico). Frelimo bases at all these villages were attacked and totally wiped out by our glorious forces. On 18 January our forces ambushed and burned two party vehicles and one tractor carrying FPLM soldiers in the town of Corrane. Our forces killed one Frelimo agent and released three members of the population who were being detained. On 18 January MNR combatants attacked and occupied the enemy base at (Maniculasso), which controlled the communal villages in the area. The Frelimo soldiers were repelled and fled to Murrupula. An assortment of war materiel, including two AK-47's, was captured by our forces. The residents being held at the communal village were released. On 21 January our combatants attacked and occupied the Mecua barracks on the Nampula-Nametil road. The enemy fled toward the city of Nampula, abandoning three light automatic weapons, seven full boxes and a half full box of ammunition for an MGG weapon, four radio transmitters of Cuban manufacture and a quantity of other war materiel. Mecua is situated 42 km from the city of Nampula..

Zambezia Province: On 11 January our forces clashed with the enemy at (Ndorua), Murrumbala. The Frelimo soldiers abandoned the battlefield, leaving behind one AK-47 and other war materiel. On 15 January our forces attacked and occupied the Frelimo base at Megaza, killing two enemies of the people and wounding many others. The Megaza base served as a forward base for Murrumbala and was designed to observe our bases in the region. Large quantities of war materiel, including two MGG machine guns, three pistols, four AK-47's, and one Hungarian weapon were captured. A total of 18 members of the population held by the Frelimo troops were released by our forces.

On 16 January MNR combatants attacked the enemy base at (Nhamezinga), Murrumbala district. This base controlled the roads linking the town of Murrumbala to the south and east. Our forces captured three light authomatic weapons in addition to large quantities of war materiel abandoned by the enemy when it fled. On 17 January our forces ambushed a military vehicle on the Mopeia-Quelimane road, killing three enemies of the people and capturing three light weapons. The vehicle was destroyed. On 18 January our combatants clashed with the uring three light weapons. The vehicle was toward Maganja da Costa. Two 60-mm mortar shells and other military equipment were captured by our forces.

Tete Province: On 9 January our forces clashed with FPLM soldiers near (Combezi), killing three Frelimo members and wounding many others. Our forces captured one AK-47 and other war materiel.

Manica Province: On 17 January The glorious forces of MNR attacked the enemy barracks at (Chicondique), capturing an assortment of military equipment.

Sofala Province: On 2 January our combatants attacked the enemy barracks at (Mutambasse), capturing one RPG-7, one RPD, and other military equipment. On 7 January MNR forces destroyed three pylons supporting the Revue power lines, which supply the city of Beira with electricity. The sabotage took place in the [word indistinct] area. On 9 January our combatants sabotaged the Beira-Zimbabwe railway line, destroying a 8-meter section in the Monte Xiluvo area. On 13 January the Frelimo base at (Cheissa) was attacked by MNR forces, who captured an assortment of military equipment. On 13 January our combatants attacked, destroyed, and captured the enemy military base at the town of Muanza, the district headquarters, killing 110 Frelimo soldiers. The dead included the battalion commander and the three company commanders. During the fighting our forces destroyed one locomotive and two military carriers. Frelimo air force appeared on the scene with MIG-17 airplanes and helicopters and attempted to strafe the MNR forces. However, this was not possible as our combatants had by then occupied the enemy base. MNR combatants captured 4 82-mm mortars, 72 automatic light weapons, and 3 RPG-7's, among other war materiel.

On 14 January MNR forces attacked and captured the enemy base at (Magalhaes), near Vila Paiva. A total of nine enemies of the people were killed. Large quantities of war materiel, including 5 light automatic weapons and 20 82-mm morter shells, were captured by our forces. On 15 January our forces sabotaged the water conduit which supplies the city of Beira from Mafambisse, [word indistinct] area.

Inhambane Province: On 8 January the enemy attempted to attack our base at Zavala. However, our forces repelled the enemy, capturing one RPG-7, one AK-47, and other military equipment. A total of five enemies of the people were killed. On 11 January Frelimo forces were repelled, suffering three dead when they attempted to attack one of our bases in the Manhica area, Massinga. Our combatants captured one RPG-7, three AK-47's, and other military equipment. On 13 January MNR forces staged an ambush on the (Chituina)-Masinga road, in the (Chahane) area, destroying three Ifa military vehicles. On 16 January our combatants attacked Frelimo soldiers in the (Chipambine) area, Morrumbene District, killing two FPLM members. On 17 Jaunary our forces attacked and captured the enemy military base at Mapinhane, situated in Vilanculos District. A total of four Frelimo soldiers were killed, and three AK-47's, one RPD, two Mausers, and other military equipment were captured.

Gaza Province: Our forces clashed with FPLM troops in the Maimane area, near Nalazi. Frelimo soldiers had been moving from Nalazi to abduct members of the population and to take them to communal villages. The enemy troops were repelled after one their members was killed. On 8 Jaunary MNR forces sabotaged the Maputo-Zimbabwe railroad line between Mabalane and Combomune. On the occasion our forces sabotaged the telephone line in the same area. On 8 January an FPLM column traveling between Chokwe and Massingir was ambushed by our forces. The enemy, which did not return fire, suffered four dead. Our combatants captured eight AK-47's, one Hungarian weapon, and on RPG-7, among other military equipment.

Frelimo crimes in Gaza Province: Land mine continue to be set by the criminal Frelimo troops in the Maimane, west of Nalazi, around wells used by civilians. On 7 Jaunary our forces found a woman whose leg had been completely severed when she detonated a landmine. On 4 January Frelimo troops abducted civilians of the Hati-Hati area in [words indistinct].

Maputo Province: On 30 December our forces shelled the Frelimo base at the town of Magude, with mortars, destroying several military installations. On 3 January our forces clashed with the enemy on the Mahel-(?Mohine) road. Frelimo soldiers were defeated and put to flight. On 14 January MNR forces sabotaged the Magude-Motaze railroad line. On the same day, a train traveling from Amgude was derailed in that region and destroyed. On 16 January our combatants ambushed and destroyed a military vehicle in the (Libolo) region. The vehicles was traveling between Magude and Mahel.

The summer is red. Death and war to the enemies of the people. The struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference Leaders Said To Urge Consensus

MB130602 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] South-West African political leaders say the multiparty conference in the territory is their last opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to constitutional development. They said in a South African Broadcasting Corporation program that the conference had led to reconciliation and unity and that the leaders should try to reach consensus on a government system, and also on the cessation of hostilities and the involvement of more parties such as SWAPO.

Other priorities were contact with the international community involved in the South-West African question and greater recognition. The leaders were divided on the formation of an interim government. Most of them agreed, however, that an internationally accepted dispensation should enjoy priority before any thought could be given to an interim government.

The administrator general, Dr van Niekerk, said the multiparty conference served as an initiative of the territory's leaders and that the conference was capable of reaching agreement on difficult issues.

SWAPO's Nujoma Meets With Italy's Pertini

For Italian reportage on the meeting of SWAPO President Sam Nujoma with Italian President Sandro Pertini, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 13 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Comments on Andropov's Death

MB101630 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1626 GMT
10 Feb 84

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 10, SAPA — It was doubtful that the death of the Soviet president Yuriy Andropov would mean any noteworthy change in Soviet objectives as far as southern Africa was concerned, the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, said today. He was reacting in a statement in Cape Town to the announcement earlier today that President Andropov had died.

Mr Botha said there would be considerable speculation as to who President Andropov's successor would be and what policy directions would emanate from a number of potential candidates. "As far as southern Africa is concerned it is doubtful whether there will be any noteworthy change in Soviet objectives, no matter who the next leader might be," he said.

The foreign minister said he had not yet met the person who could predict with any degree of accuracy who would emerge from the inner ring of the Kremlin. "We simply don't know how the minds of the Kremlin leaders work in regard to their internal struggles," he said.

Pik Botha Lauds Italian Aid to Southern Africa

AU111530 Rome ANSA in English 1515 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text](ANSA) Capetown February 11 — South African Foreign Minister Roelof "Pik" Botha said here today that Italy will make much progress in Mozambique if peace can be established in the area and a satisfactory security agreement is reached between South Africa and Mozambique.

Botha told ANSA that Italian aid for Mozambique would be particularly beneficial in projects that create jobs, especially in food production. "Assistance must not be just a handout but must be made effective. This requires patience and understanding", the foreign minister said.

With regards to the possibility of an aid program for the small mountain Kingdom of Swaziland, Pik Botha said that this would be "a good investment". Swaziland has very good relations with South Africa as well as being a member of the regional "Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference". "This small country is one of the few examples of growth in Africa. Personally, I believe that, from every point of view, it is difficult to make a better investment".

Speaking of his visit to Rome at the end of last year, the South African foreign minister said he was impressed by the willingness to try "to understand our dilemma". "Our government is trying in all sincerity to move away from discrimination... but this can't be done in a day". He added that his country should be credited for what it is doing but instead it is only condemned. "We are ready to say we made mistakes, we are ready to change, but we are not ready to ask forgiveness for our existence", the foreign minister exclaimed.

Herstigte Nasionale Party Pulls Out of Election

MB100837 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0833 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 10, SAPA — The Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] has withdrawn from the Soutpansberg by-election. The leader of the party, Mr Jaap Marais, said today the by-election had acquired increased significance in the light of the latest discussions between the South African Government, the U.S., and the communist governments in southern Africa.

Mr Marais said the South African Government was under such pressure from abroad that it was prepared to hand over the whites of SWA/Namibia to SWAPO in terms of UN Resolution 435. If SWA/Namibia were to be cut loose from South Africa it would have far-reaching consequences for the white nation of SWA/Namibia as well as South Africa, he said. The Afrikaners of SWA/Namibia would then find themselves in the same critical position as the English and Afrikaners at present in Zimbabwe, and it would have a far-reaching effect on the morale of whites in South Africa.

In the light of this, said Mr Marais, everything would have to be done to curb the government on its "perilous road." If the government could be beaten in Soutpansberg, it would be a gesture of the rejection of the government's policy.

As things stood at present at Soutpansberg, there was a strong possibility that the National Party [NP] would not obtain a majority over the HNP and the Conservative Party [CP]. And if the HNP and CP votes were combined, the NP would not doubt be defeated, he said. With this in mind, and in view of the proposed congress to establish an Afrikaner cultural organisation operating above party, the HNP, in collaboration with all interested bodies, had decided to withdraw its candidates in the parliamentary and provincial by-elections, "and thereby contribute towards a defeat for the NP," Mr Marais said.

Transkei Official Ready for Constitutional Debate

MB111152 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Transkei's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Mr M. Lijabe says his country is prepared to participate in a debate on constitutional development in an effort to structure a more acceptable sociopolitical order in South Africa. Mr Lijabe was reacting in Umtata to reports in which the South African minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, was quoted as saying black constitutional development was high on the government's agenda. The report referred to a meeting with the presidents of the four independent states on 3 February. Mr Lijabe said Transkei was not aware of any discussions on such a matter between the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and the four black presidents.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Sends Condolences on Andropov Demise

MB110704 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] President Kaunda has expressed shock and grief on the death of Soviet leader, Comrade Yuriy Andropov, who died on Thursday in Moscow. In a message to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, President Kaunda desribed Comrade Andropov as a great statesman and visionary who was committed to a cause of world peace and security. The president said Comrade Andropov was a man who was dedicated to improving the well-being of the Soviet people, a man under whose leadership the Soviet Union was destined to achieve even greater success in all fields. Dr Kaunda said his death is a blow not only to the Soviet people but to the world as a whole.

3 Days of Mourning

MB120825 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, has declared 3 days of national mourning in memory of Soviet leader, the late Mr Yuriy Andropov, who died on Thursday, 9 February. Announcing this in Lusaka yesterday, a State House spokesman said the national mourning starts at 0600 this morning and will end at 1800 on Tuesday evening. During this period, all flags will be flown at half mast and all social events of an entertainment nature will be cancelled.

Meanwhile, President Kaunda will this morning sign a book of condolences in honor of the late Mr Andropov at the Soviet Embassy. Party Secretary General Mr Humphrey Mulemba leaves today for Moscow to attend Mr Andropov's funeral on Tuesday next week.

Kaunda Meets With Acting OAU Secretary General Onu

MB120829 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] President Kaunda says that recent developments on the African Continent have shown that Africa now needs the OAU more than ever before. Speaking before holding private talks with OAU acting secretary general, Mr Peter Onu, at State House yesterday, Dr Kaunda said that the latest developments in Chad, the Western Sahara, Namibia, and South Africa indicate that Africa will need the OAU more than ever before in order to tackle her growing political problems to their logical conclusions. President Kaunda (?rather) expressed doubt over the commitment of some OAU member states to the organization's principles. It was doubtful whether some states in the OAU were meeting their obligations to the organization.

Mr Onu arrived in the country yesterday from Uganda, where he discussed African matters with Ugandan President Milton Obote. Mr Onu has also held talks with the Tanzanian president, Julius Nyerere.

Envoy to USSR Applauds Soviet Assistance, Ties

MB100800 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Zambia's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr Joshua Siyolwe, has expressed the nation's gratitude for the assistance which the Soviet Union was rendering in most spheres in the country's economic and social progress. Mr Siyolwe said if the contacts between the two countries continue to develop fruitfully, the two countries' ties in politics, economics, social and cultural life, science and technology will become even stronger than they are at the present moment.

The ambassador was speaking when he addressed Zambians and Russians at a meeting in Moscow recently, organized by the Soviet Association of Friendship with African Peoples. Mr Siyolwe said the meeting was just another proof of (?loyalty and) the Zambian and Soviet people's lofty ideals of friendship. The meeting was attended by Zambian students studying at the school of high learning and the Zambian Embassy staff.

ZIMBABWE

Banana, Mangwende Leave for Andropov Funeral

MB130557 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, left Harare for Moscow last night, where he will represent Zimbabwe at the funeral ceremonies of the late Soviet president, Comrade Yuriy Andropov, scheduled for tomorrow. The president, who is accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, and senior government officials, was seen off at the airport by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, government ministers, and members of the diplomatic corps.

A foreign ministry statement issued last night declared today and tomorrow as days of national mourning, and flags will be flown at half mast during this period. The statement says this is to further mark the solidarity that exists between the peoples of Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union at this time of national mourning.

Banana Sends Condolence Message

MB111249 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, has sent condolences to the government and people of the Soviet Union following the death of Comrade Yuriy Andropov last Thursday. In his message signed at the book of condolences at the Soviet Embassy in Harare today, Comrade Banana said the death of Comrade Andropov has deprived all progressive forces of the dynamic leader who worked for the cause of peace and progress.

Banana Sends Message to Iran on 5-Year Anniversary

MB110630 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, has sent a congratulatory message to Iran on the fifth anniversary of the Islamic revolution, which is today. Noting the good relations which exist between Zimbabwe and Iran, Comrade Banana expressed the hope that the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran would end soon.

Yugoslavia's Culafic Addresses ZANU-PF Members

MB110743 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Yugoslavia has called on the Pretoria regime to stop its acts of destabilization in the southern African region, especially in People's Republic of Angola. A member of the Presidency of the League of the Communists of Yugoslavia party, Comrade Culafic, castigated the apartheid state yesterday when he addressed members of the ZANU-PF Mashingo Provincial Executive. Comrade Culafic is the leader of the visiting 4-man delegation which is in the country to consolidate relations between Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe. He said the visit to Zimbabwe is also aimed at assessing the situation in southern Africa at close range.

Matebeleland Curfew Said To Reduce Dissident Acts

MB130652 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, says there has been a decrease in dissident activities in Matabeleland South since the government imposed curfew conditions in the area on 3 February. Speaking on a Zimbabwe television program, "The Nation," last night, Comrade Mubako said although it was too early to make an absolute assessment of the situation, indications are that the situation is improving.

The minister said the government is carrying out a day-to-day appraisal of development in the area. He said measures have been taken to ensure that innocent members of the public do not suffer as a result of the curfew. Comrade Mubako said the curfew is meant to trap and inconvenience dissidents so that they can be arrested. The minister said some government projects have been adversely affected by dissident activities, but pointed out that this will not deter the government from continuing with its development plans in the affected areas.